

## New group claims Beirut explosions

BEIRUT (AP) — An underground group calling itself the Arab Fedayeen Cells claimed responsibility Saturday for bombing British and American banks in east Beirut, vowing to stage further attacks to "uproot imperialist interests from our land." The claim came in a type-written Arabic language statement delivered to Western news agency offices in west Beirut. "The Arab Fedayeen Cells — the Arab League for Revolutionary Action — declares its responsibility for planting the explosive charge at the Bank of America branch in Jal Al Deeb on Saturday Aug. 23 and the bombing of the British bank this morning Aug. 30," the statement said. Police said two dynamite sticks wrecked the entrance to the British Bank of the Middle East branch in east Beirut's Dora commercial district before dawn, causing no casualties. The name of the group suggests it is one of the pro-Libyan underground factions that have been claiming small bomb attacks against British and American interests in Lebanon since the April 15.

# Jordan Times

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## Iraqis hit supply ship near Farsi

BAHRAIN (AP) — Iraqi jet fighters attacked a supply ship off Iran's Farsi Island Saturday in the third raid in as many days on the small Iranian terminal in the northern sector of the Gulf waters, according to military statements from Baghdad. An Iraqi military spokesman said the warplanes at 9:45 a.m. dealt "a destructive blow" to a supply ship off Farsi Island in the Gulf waters and returned safely to base. Baghdad Radio reported. Shipping executives confirmed that a supply vessel heading for Farsi Island was destroyed in the Iraqi attack, but they had no information on the goods or personnel that it might have been carrying. Iraq on Thursday and Friday announced air raids on Farsi proper, describing the island as an auxiliary port for Iran's vital Kharg Island oil terminal and saying it harboured a radar station for air surveillance in the region. Gulf-based shipping executives said Farsi Island is a small maritime terminal about 100 kilometres south of Kharg.

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## King sends good wishes to Malaysia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday sent a cable of good wishes to Sultan Iskandar of Malaysia on the occasion of Malaysia's Independence Day. In the cable the King voiced Jordan's wishes for further progress and prosperity for the Malaysian people.

## Israeli soldier attacked near Nablus

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli soldier hitch-hiking in the occupied West Bank was assaulted and slightly injured by two men Friday night, a military spokesman said Saturday. He said the soldier was thumbing a ride near the town of Nablus, which is against regulations at that time of day, when two men stopped their car and assaulted him. Troops were searching for the attackers, he added.

## 8 killed in U.S. helicopter crash

OSLO, Norway (AP) — Eight marines died when a U.S. Marine Corps helicopter carrying 21 people crashed into the Atlantic Ocean off Norway, an officer reported Saturday. Reports from allied officials in Oslo and U.S. military officials in Norfolk, Virginia, said 13 people were plucked from the sea by other helicopters and rescue boats following Friday's crash. The twin-rotor CH-46 Sea Knight, assigned to the Norfolk-based assault ship USS Saipan, crashed about 100 kilometres west of Bodø, Norway, during NATO exercises, said Chief Petty Officer Joseph Mowery, a spokesman for the U.S. Atlantic fleet in Norfolk.

## U.S. journalist detained in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — The KGB secret police detained an American reporter on Saturday after a Soviet citizen handed him maps marked "top secret," according to reports from a KGB official and the journalist's wife. Nicholas Daioff, Moscow correspondent for U.S. News and World Report, was being held at a KGB facility in eastern Moscow, said a man who identified himself as KGB investigator Sergoyev.

## Egypt sentences 5 to jail for spying

CAIRO (R) — A state security court on Saturday sentenced two Egyptians convicted in their absence of spying for Libya to life imprisonment with hard labour. Three others received prison terms ranging from five to 15 years, also with hard labour.

## Bhutto party dissidents launch new party

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — Dissidents from the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) of executed former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto launched a new political party Saturday led by Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, a former chief minister of the Southern Province of Sind. Jatoi was elected chairman of the National People's Party (NPP) at a convention in Lahore.

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# Upper House endorses law governing 'national aid fund'

## Way cleared for institutionalised help to the needy

By Rana Sabbagh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Saturday passed a law endorsing the establishment of a "national aid fund," designed to extend financial and other support for needy families and citizens throughout the Kingdom.

The Lower House passed the law on Aug. 4 as presented by the government.

The fund, which was promised by His Majesty King Hussein in his inaugural speech to Parliament's fourth ordinary session last November, is expected to create new jobs by offering needy people the chance to receive vocational training. The fund will also finance studies and research to find out means and methods to overcome poverty and ways of helping needy people become self-reliant.

Allocations for the fund, which

amount to JD 1.5 million, have been provided for in the 1986 budget but will be augmented by donations from individuals and voluntary societies.

The fund will be governed by a board chaired by the minister of labour and social development and will group representatives from the ministries of awqaf, finance and health, the Social Security Corporation, the Vocational Training Corporation, the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund, the General Union of Voluntary Societies and the

private sector. The project will be accountable to the Audit Bureau while the Cabinet has the right to issue any regulations to execute articles in the law, which will be enacted after a Royal Decree endorses it.

Discussing the law on the Upper House's floor, Senators Nayef Al Khraisha, Hasei Srour and Khalil Al Salem approved "in principle and content" the 1986 law governing the fund although they presented an "undisclosed list of reservations" over the project.

The three senators, who are members of the House's Finance Committee, agreed that the fund "is a very wise and human project," but said their reservations centred on some of the terms used in the law.

Dr. Salem said: "My reservations cover minor definitions."

"However, I want the law to be put into practice. It is only through application that some of our reservations on a number of term definitions will either fail or

succeed," he said without naming the articles he was referring to.

Senator Srour contended that some of the law's definitions might be "difficult" to apply. "Practice, however, will do all it's and cross all it's," he said. He too did not elaborate on his comments.

Senator Ahmad Tarawneh, rapporteur of the Senate Legal Committee, urged the senators not to pass the law before Dr. Salem, Mr. Srour and Mr. Khraisha explained "in detail their personal reservations on the law." However, Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi to put the law to a vote, saying there were "no significant reservations."

The law was approved by a show of hands.

After the session, the minister of labour and social development, Mr. Khaled Al Haj Hassan, described the three senators' "reservations" as "minor comments on some of the articles' wording and definitions." However, Mr. Haj Hassan

(Continued on page 3)

## Morocco's abrogation of treaty with Libya surprises very few

RABAT (Agencies) — King Hassan's announcement Friday night that he was scrapping Morocco's state union treaty with Libya did not surprise either Morocco's friends or foes, diplomats here said.

In Washington the news was welcomed because the Americans were unhappy over the two-year-old pact, between their closest friend and worst enemy in the Arab World.

In neighbouring Algeria, at odds with Morocco for over ten years, diplomats said the reaction was expected to be "we told you so" since the Algerians said the pact would not last when it was signed on Aug. 13, 1984.

In a broadcast Friday night, the king said he had been forced to abrogate the treaty after Libyan leader Colonel Muammar

Qadhafi and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad issued a statement denouncing last month's visit to Morocco by Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

"When one dares to accuse us of high treason... Morocco cannot fail to be angered," the monarch said in his unscheduled broadcast.

The joint statement issued in Tripoli and Damascus on Wednesday denounced the visit by Mr. Peres to Morocco last month, branding it as "an act of treason" and a "violation of the Arab consensus in defiance of the feelings of the Arab Nation."

In a message to Col. Qadhafi released by the palace, the king told him the terms of the statement "no longer allow our country to continue on the path of the state union with your country."

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## Khayyat refutes Israeli claims

By Abdullah Nsour  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat said on Saturday that Israel's excavation operations around Al Aqsa Mosque in Arab Jerusalem had not revealed any trace of Jewish presence in the area.

Sheikh Khayyat said if the Israelis had found a shred of evidence of Jewish presence they would have publicly announced it to the world.

The minister was addressing a special seminar held at the University of Jordan on the situation at Al Aqsa on the 17th anniversary of the burning of the holy mosque.

In his address, the minister spoke about his meetings with a number of Arab officials on restoring Al Aqsa Mosque and said he hoped that Muslims will contribute generously for the mission.

Sheikh Khayyat, who heads a special committee for carrying out the restoration work, stressed that Al Aqsa "is an Arab and Muslim shrine, and has been so throughout history," and appealed to Arab and Islamic nations to protect it from Israeli practices and aggression.

Also addressing the seminar was Mr. Musa Kellani, director general of the Press and Publication Department. Dr. Kellani reviewed Israel's acts of aggression and desecration committed against Al Aqsa and called on Arab and Muslim nations to carry out a concerted information campaign designed to refute Israel's claims about its rights in the holy shrine.

"Information is no less significant or influential than modern technology and weapons used by the Israeli enemy," Dr. Kellani said.

"Palestinian Muslims rose against the aggressors when they saw their holy shrine burning in 1969 at the hands of Zionist extremists and also against Israel's attempts to cover up for the arson and against the Israeli authorities' attempt to introduce changes

(Continued on page 3)



KING RECEIVES IRAQI MINISTER: His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday receives Iraqi Transport Minister Abdul Jabbar Al Assadi in a meeting attended by Transport Minister Rajal Dajani. Mr. Assadi is currently on a visit to Jordan (see related story on page 3)

## Vorontsov ends visit with call on Iran's allies to help end Gulf war

AMMAN (J.T.) — Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov ended a two-day visit to Jordan on Saturday calling on Iran's allies to intervene with the Tehran government to convince it to accept a compromise in the Gulf war with Iraq.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, prior to his departure, Mr. Vorontsov said: "The continuation of bloodshed in the Gulf war will not serve the interests of either the Iranian or Iraqi people. And we, as neighbours to Iran, cannot stand unseeing towards this situation."

"We are trying to convince Iran to stop the war, but there has been no response. So we urge other countries to intervene to convince Iran," he said.

He did not say who the "other countries" he was referring to, but observers here took it to mean Syria and Libya which support Iran in the war and other countries that enjoy good relations with Tehran.

Mr. Vorontsov also said the Middle East would be discussed at the next U.S.-Soviet summit and the superpowers were agreed on the need to end the war.

Mr. Vorontsov described his talks in Amman as positive and fruitful and said they covered world issues.

Mr. Vorontsov, who was received by His Majesty King Hussein, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and other senior Jordanian officials, said the Middle East question was on top of the subjects discussed during his visit to Jordan.

"During the visit I briefed King Hussein and Mr. Rifai on the Soviet government's initiative on the question of disarmament and world security," Mr. Vorontsov said.

Asked to comment on the recent Soviet-Israeli meeting in Helsinki, the Soviet minister said he supported the conclusion of the questioner that it offered Israel the chance to drum up propaganda about the status of Soviet Jews.

Mr. Vorontsov, who left for Syria on his way to Algeria, was seen off at the border post of Ramtha by the Foreign Ministry's acting secretary general and senior local officials and the Soviet charge d'affaires in Amman.

In an interview with the Iraqi newspaper Al Jumhuriya, another Soviet deputy foreign minister, Vladimir Petrovsky, said in Baghdad that Iran will only suffer further losses and more hardship from the war which threatens the stability of the region and adversely affected social and economic development of the Gulf states.

Baghdad Radio carried excerpts from the interview.

Mr. Petrovsky was quoted as saying that the Soviet Union supported Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's Aug. 2 peace call to Iranian leaders. The hierarchy in Tehran dismissed the appeal out of hand.

Mr. Petrovsky dismissed reports that the Soviet Union was supplying arms to Iran and said his country has always called for an immediate end to the war.

"We have always called and still call for an immediate ceasefire in the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq," Mr. Petrovsky told Al Jumhuriya.

Mr. Petrovsky said of Soviet-Iranian ties: "We strive to establish better neighbourly

(Continued on page 2)

# DUBAI DAILY AS OF TODAY

As of today our normal daily service to Dubai will be resumed. All passengers now booked for Dubai via Abu Dhabi are requested to contact the numbers listed below, to change their reservations.

CENTRAL RESERVATIONS 678321 (From 7:30a.m. - midnight)

SALES OFFICES/JORDAN	
AMMAN	Abdaly 663 524/7
	Housing Bank 678 166
	InterContinental Hotel 644 269/642 152
	Salt Street 639 35/2
	Shamsoun 621 229/621 192
	Al-Wahdat 771 154/778 651
AOABA	Holiday Inn Hotel 314 477
IRBIO	Baghdad Street 243 20/2
ZERKA	983 672/984 026

Tomorrow Monday  
The grand opening  
of  
**JORDAN SUPERMARKET**

The first of its kind in the capital  
More details tomorrow

**Alia**



# Libya seeking more aid from East Bloc countries

**TRIPOLI, Libya (Agencies) —** Libya is retraining its pilots and seeking increased military aid from Eastern Bloc nations in response to the April 15 U.S. bombing raid, sources say.

But a drastic decline in oil revenues has forced this North African nation to cut back on military spending and postpone the construction of a new naval base, according to sources in Tripoli who refused to be identified by name or nationality.

The U.S. attack on Tripoli and Benghazi, which Libyan officials said killed 39 people, apparently took Libya by surprise despite a reported warning by Maltese air controllers 45 minutes before the bombing.

Diplomats in Tripoli, the capital of Libya, said an Eastern European analysis of Libya's response concluded its air force pilots did not react fast enough and its air defence system, which includes Soviet-made SA-5 missiles, was poorly coordinated. One U.S. plane was shot down.

The United States cited alleged Libyan involvement in "international terrorism" to justify the bombing raid and has warned that another attack could occur if other links to attacks were found.

Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi's government has responded with a drive quietly to restructure the military and an appeal to Eastern Bloc countries for more military aid, the sources said.

Diplomatic sources in Tripoli said that the armed forces command post was transferred last month deep into the Libyan desert to Hun, 400 kilometres south of Tripoli.

They also said Libyan Air Force pilots were receiving renewed training with help from Yugoslavia, a Communist nation that pursues a non-aligned policy.

Authoritative sources said Libya has accepted two Soviet warships to replace a Libyan warship sunk by U.S. aircraft in a skirmish in the Gulf of Sirte a month before the American attack.

The sources, who were close to the transaction, said two Soviet frigates of the Nanushka class were delivered to Libya six to eight weeks ago, in response to Tripoli's appeal for increased aid.

Although Libya has purchased billions of dollars in Soviet arms in the past, a sharp drop in oil revenues, from \$22 billion expected this year, is cutting into its military spending, sources said.

Plans to buy tanks and military training aircraft from Yugoslavia have been scaled back and a project to construct a new naval base at Al Khom, about 120 kilometres east of Tripoli, has been postponed, diplomatic sources said.

Several recent deals for arms were cut with the Soviets using Libyan oil as a barter tool, oil industry and diplomatic sources say.

An estimated 3,000 Soviet military and technical advisers are in Libya, many stationed at coastal bases where the SA-5 missiles are installed, according to Tripoli-based Western diplomats.

Sources said a senior Soviet naval adviser to Col. Qadhafi was killed last March in the clash between Libyan forces and U.S. planes involved in manoeuvres off Libya. The officer, a captain, was aboard the Libyan frigate when it was sunk by an American warplane, the sources said.

**Soviet leader in Libya**

Meanwhile Soviet Vice President Pyotr N. Demichev, accompanied by a senior commander of the Soviet Air Defence Forces, was expected to arrive in Libya on Saturday to take part in celebrations marking the anniversary of the 1969 coup which brought Col. Qadhafi to power.

The Soviet news agency TASS said Mr. Demichev was accompanied by Col. Gen. I.M. Maltsev, chief of staff for the Air Defence Forces, and Vladimir M. Vinogradov, the foreign minister of the Russian Republic, largest of the Soviet Union's 15 republics.

TASS did not report how long they would stay in Tripoli. It said they were going to Libya to take part in the 17th anniversary of the coup in which Col. Qadhafi ousted King Idris in 1969.

A Soviet spokesman meeting reporters on Thursday did not rule out that Mr. Demichev, who is first deputy to Soviet President Andrei Gromyko and a deputy politburo member, might have "business discussions" while in Libya.

The spokesman, Gennady Gerasimov of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, did not elaborate.

Both Gerasimov and commentators in the Soviet media have accused the United States of aggression against Libya and served notice that Moscow supports Libya's intent to defend its national sovereignty.

"There has been no indication, however, of what the Soviet

## Mahdi planning cabinet reshuffle

**KHARTOUM (Agencies) —** Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi is planning a cabinet reshuffle, perhaps as early as next week, the English-language Sudan Times reported Saturday.

"The reshuffle is to correct some of the bad image, and damage done to the cabinet by some of the recent problems," the paper said, apparently referring to a clash between Cabinet Affairs Minister Salah Abdul Salam and airline unions.

Mr. Abdul Salam ordered suspension of Sudan Airways staff who joined a protest strike over what they said was inadequate security, which allowed rebels to shoot down an airliner over southern Sudan on Aug. 16.

Trade Minister Mohammed Abu Harira has been under fire from merchants over recent measures he introduced to fight smuggling and improve trade.

Meanwhile the state-run Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported Friday that Ethiopian jet fighters flew into Sudan in an apparent search for Eritrean rebels, and hit two trucks in the Shalloub border area.

SUNA quoted eyewitnesses in the area saying they saw two MiG fighters last Wednesday flying over the region five times before firing their shots on two trucks. The vehicles were damaged, but there were no casualties, and the fighters immediately flew back across the southern border into Ethiopia, SUNA reported.

The report did not elaborate on the type of trucks nor whom they were carrying, but added that the planes "were apparently attacking Eritrean guerrillas in the area."

Sudan and Ethiopia maintain diplomatic ties but relations have been strained for decades, and each country harbours rebels operations against the other.

Eritreans are allowed to fight the Marxist Ethiopian government out of Sudan. The rebel Sudan Peoples Liberation Front (SPLF) maintains military and political bases as well as a radio station in Ethiopia.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Friday 170,000 people in a provincial capital of southern Sudan face starvation because of drought-stricken area were suspended two weeks ago.

Some children and old people in the town of Wau already died, and the condition of many others is becoming critical, said a report from an ICRC representative in Wau that was released by the agency's headquarters. It gave no figure for the deaths.

The all-Swiss organisation began airlifting emergency food supplies to southern Sudan on Aug. 14 but suspended the flights indefinitely two days later after anti-government rebels shot down a civilian airliner carrying 60 people.

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The demand would be put to the foreign ministers of the European Community (EC) at a meeting on the fringes of the U.N. General Assembly in New York next month, according to the Kuwaiti minister.

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## UNIFIL still committed to 'helping the people'

**TYRE, Lebanon (R) —** U.N. peacekeepers in South Lebanon, facing a new peril from radical pro-Iranian Muslims, say they remain committed to the villagers they protect.

"We are not scared. We want to stay to help the people," said a weary-looking French soldier behind sandbags protecting his contingent's headquarters in the Shi'ite Muslim village of Maarakeh near Tyre.

Only a few kilometres from his post, 19 French soldiers were wounded two weeks ago in rocket and machine-gun clashes with the Shi'ite Amal militia. One militiaman was killed.

The fighting, which followed the shooting to death of two Amal militia officials at a French checkpoint, was checked. But hit-and-run attacks on U.N. posts have since wounded two more Frenchmen, and an Irish officer was killed in a bomb blast.

The violence exposed perhaps the most serious breakdown of trust between local people and peacekeepers since the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) arrived in 1978.

But there are signs it was no accident. Villagers said fundamentalist Muslim clerics had begun touring the mainly Shi'ite South before the clashes, saying Lebanese should fight UNIFIL because it was preventing them from fighting Israel.

"Attackers are constantly harassing UNIFIL soldiers, especially the French," UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel told Reuters. "But they have been extremely restrained, because they realise they are being provoked into doing something that could have worse consequences."

He said the mainstream Amal militia was trying to pacify the situation, "but all it takes to stir trouble is a man with a gun — and in Lebanon what is the problem of finding a gun?"

Amal's leader in the South, Daoud Daoud, told a rally in the fiercely anti-Israeli village of Maarakeh this week that "any attack against UNIFIL is an attack against us."

But the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) militia has assailed the Security Council resolution which set up UNIFIL, saying it gave Israel security rights in Lebanon.

"We categorically reject the structure of Resolution 425," said a Hizbollah statement issued after Shi'ite religious scholars met Iranian officials in Baalbek, eastern Lebanon.

UNIFIL's original mandate — never fulfilled — was to confirm a withdrawal of Israeli invasion troops in 1978 and restore Lebanese government authority in the South.

Israel has never let the force deploy on the border, and set up a "security zone" inside Lebanon last year.

UNIFIL nevertheless won the hearts of most villagers in the area it controlled and many southerners still echo Amal's declarations of support for the blue-helmeted peacekeepers.

Goksel said the anti-UNIFIL sermons had not changed the attitude of people "with whom we have lived for eight years. They know and love us, but the danger that there will be those influenced (by militants) is always there."

Tension, not love, currently dominates villages in the French sector near Tyre. U.N. checkpoints were deserted and French soldiers kept to their white-and-blue-painted barracks.

But further east in Tyne, hometown of Amal leader Nabih Berri, Irish troops drove their white jeeps along tree-lined streets impeded only by residents offering them coffee.

"Most of the people of the South want UNIFIL to stay and if they ever leave it would be a big catastrophe," said Ghazi Fawaz, a middle-aged resident of Tyne.

"It is a security and economic matter," he said, adding that the presence of thousands of UNIFIL troops from nine countries was a valued source of income for many southerners.

Mahmoud, another Tyne resident, said blue U.N. flags fluttering over checkpoints were a reassuring feature in the South. "We would not like to lose them."

The Irish contingent's new officer, Commandant John Carolan, told Reuters the U.N. soldiers had a commitment "which we will continue irrespective of what happens."

"The people of Haris sympathise and support UNIFIL," read a banner in English hoisted by residents near Irish battalion headquarters in the village.

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## Iranian oil minister holds talks in Dubai

**DUBAI, UAE (AP) —** Iran's Oil Minister Gholamreza Azadeh was reported Saturday to be trying to talk the Dubai leaders into supporting the OPEC decision on oil production reduction.

The official Emirates News Agency WAM said that Mr. Azadeh, who arrived from Peking, discussed with United Arab Emirates Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammed Ibn Rashid the oil situation, bilateral relations and the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

He said the two ministers dealt with "efforts aimed at unifying policies of OPEC members on production and prices and the cooperation of non-OPEC oil producers with the cartel."

The ministerial council of the 13-nation cartel met in Geneva earlier this month and adopted an Iranian proposal to reduce the OPEC's aggregate production by about 3.5 million barrels a day for two months commencing Sept. 1.

The move was designed to arrest the nosediving oil prices until a long-term agreement on production and pricing could be reached.

The UAE is a federation of seven emirates led by Abu Dhabi, the leading oil producer following by Dubai.

While in Peking, Mr. Azadeh was quoted as expressing satisfaction that he had secured the agreement of China, after the Soviet Union, to reduce their oil exports as a contribution from non-OPEC countries to help stabilise the world market.

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## Soviet minister calls on Iran's allies to seek peace

**(Continued from page 1)**

relations with Iran. We are convinced that these relations would develop further if Iran takes peaceful attitudes."

He denied that Moscow was supplying arms to Iran. "The leakage of Soviet arms (to Iran) is an international conspiracy to undermine the reputation of the Soviet Union," he told Al-Jumhuriya.

Mr. Petrovsky expressed satisfaction over the development of Soviet relations with Arab Gulf states.

"We are pleased... that our efforts found a positive response and achieved the establishment of diplomatic relations with Oman (and) the United Arab Emirates, and expanded economic cooperation with Kuwait," he said.

"The Soviet Union has expressed its complete readiness to share actively, through all means, (in efforts) to end this war," he added.

Mr. Petrovsky arrived in Iraq on Tuesday with a verbal message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev for President Hussein.

Baghdad television said he had also reiterated Soviet support for Iraqi peace terms announced by Mr. Hussein on Aug. 2.

These are: A complete, unconditional troop withdrawal to international borders, an exchange of prisoners-of-war, and a mutual non-aggression pact.

Mr. Petrovsky appealed for serious international peace efforts to improve chances of overcoming "world hatreds and tensions."

Asked about remarks by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that talks between the two superpowers had covered ways of ending the war, Mr. Petrovsky told Al-Jumhuriya:

"In such a matter, the Soviets can only express their ideas and readiness (to help find a solution) and this necessitates a position by other parties... we cannot talk on behalf of the Americans."

U.N. voices concern

At the United Nations the Security Council Friday expressed grave concern over any escalation of the Iran-Iraq war and said the most relevant basis for a settlement was a resolution it adopted calling for an immediate

ceasefire and withdrawal to internationally recognised boundaries.

After holding closed-door consultations, council members sent a letter to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar noting the sixth anniversary of the "senseless and bloody conflict," was approaching.

"The members of the Security Council are gravely concerned as the dangerous situation that would be created by a further escalation and expansion of the conflict between Iran and Iraq," the letter said.

"They are particularly disturbed by the threats such a development may produce on the neighbouring states and by the widening attacks on merchant shipping and on civilian targets in both countries."

It said council members remained committed to working towards the earliest peaceful end to the conflict and reaffirmed their view that council Resolution 582, adopted unanimously on Feb. 24 this year, "remains the most relevant basis for such a settlement."

Mr. Karami, a Sunni Muslim, and two Christian ministers last week agreed that the whole cabinet would form a "dialogue committee" to discuss political reforms aimed at settling the conflict.

The latest peace moves break a nine-month political deadlock in Lebanon since the collapse of a Syrian-mediated pact signed by the main militias.

Syria has shunned Lebanon's President Amin Gemayel, a Christian, for refusing to endorse the agreement last January.

Mr. Karami's cabinet is due to convene in full session Tuesday to launch a national reconciliation dialogue in a fresh bid to end the civil war that has claimed more than 100,000 lives.

The meeting will be the first in nine months. It will be held in Beirut's mid-city horseshoe track at the no-man's land of the green line that slices the Lebanese capital.

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## Syria supports Lebanese reconciliation dialogue

**(Continued from page 1)**

Khaddam, Syria's top expert on Lebanese affairs, attended the talks, which included our ministers from Mr. Karami's 10-man half-Christian half-Muslim cabinet.

Among them were Walid Junblatt, the public works minister, and Shi'ite Muslim militia leader Nabih Berri.

The two others were Education Minister Salim Hoss and Minister Joseph Skaff.

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## Dajani, Iraqi minister discuss land transport

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian-Iraqi talks on facilitating transport between the two countries and discussions on solving problems impeding the development of transporting goods between the two sides continued at the Ministry of Transport on Saturday. The meeting was co-chaired by Minister of Transport Rajai Dajani and his Iraqi counterpart Abdul Jabbar Al Assadi.

The two sides discussed the issue of transporting goods from the Red Sea port of Aden to Iraq and means to ensure the flow of goods by overcoming difficulties

impeding the operation. The meeting, attended by aides from both sides, follow talks by the two ministers over the past two days and a meeting between the Iraqi minister and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai in Amman.

On Thursday, Mr. Dajani and Mr. Assadi co-chaired a meeting of the general assembly of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company to review reports on the company's financial and administrative performance. At the meeting, discussion focused on plans for expanding the company's fleet of vehicles and modernising other facilities.

## Officials outline plans to develop Ramtha, Na'our

RAMTHA (Petra) — The 1986/88 five-year development plan has allocated JD 4.641 million for projects in Ramtha district with approximately 35 per cent of the total allocation to be spent on agriculture, Ramtha District Governor Khaled Mahasneh said Saturday.

He said that Ramtha district has nearly 248,418 dunums of agricultural land of which 16,000 dunums are grown with olive trees while the remainder is used to cultivate cereals and vegetables. The allocations for agriculture, he said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, will benefit both the rainfed and irrigated areas and are designed to promote crop production and animal husbandry.

Over the coming five years, a market for domestic animals will be set up, dams are to be built at Wadi Shallah and Shomari at a cost of JD 200,000, and irrigation projects are to be carried out, Mr. Mahasneh added.

On education, Mr. Mahasneh said that Ramtha district lacks proper school buildings pointing out that the existing 43 schools are rented homes and buildings which are not purpose-built. A total of JD 2.89 million has been allocated within the new five-year plan for building schools and improving existing ones in addition to setting up vocational training centres, Mr. Mahasneh continued.

Regarding health services in Ramtha district, Mr. Mahasneh said that plans have been drawn up to establish an integrated health centre in Ramtha on an area of five dunums at a cost of JD 550,000. At present, he said, the

district has nine 56-bed hospital and four integrated health centres which, he added, are insufficient to meet the increasing demand for medical services.

Referring to water and sewerage projects, Mr. Mahasneh said that work is now underway on laying a water and sewerage network and that half of this work is now almost complete.

Discussing the condition of roads in Ramtha district, Mr. Mahasneh pointed out that allocations have been made for widening roads and streets within Ramtha to ease traffic pressure. A total of JD 252,000 has been allocated for lighting roads and JD 3 million has been allocated for building a railway from Ramtha to the Syrian border town of Der'aa to help transport goods and travellers between Jordan and Syria.

Meanwhile, Amman Governor Ahmad Hindawi said on Saturday that JD 24 million will be spent on projects to develop the Na'our district within the new five-year development plan. Speaking at a meeting with heads of village councils in Na'our, Mr. Hindawi said that the district, inhabited by 24,000 people, will benefit from projects in agriculture, social welfare, infrastructure and commodity production in addition to public services and health. The Na'our district has 10 village councils and groups 33 population settlements as well as three town councils.

During the meeting, Mr. Hindawi was briefed by the heads of the village councils on their region's needs.

## Upper House endorses law governing 'national aid fund'

(Continued from page 1)

emphasised that the "discrete reservations of the three senators had nothing to do with the essence of the law."

The minister, who participated in the Senate financial committees' discussions on the law prior to its approval, said that some of the members were at loggerheads with him over the definitions of the words "poor" and "needy." He did not explain, but indicated that he had assured the members that their disagreements on some of the articles would not present any difficulties while applying the law.

"I told them their comments on some definitions will neither hinder nor advance the law's execution," the minister said, adding that he would give a press conference to elaborate on the fund's functions in detail after its approval by a Royal Decree.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Development has been offering substantial help to 8,000

families, according to the ministry officials. These families receive a total of JD 750,000 per year in financial aid from the ministry, the officials have said.

Mr. Haj Hassan emphasised that to-date the poverty line in Jordan has not been defined. "A study on this matter is currently being prepared, and the findings will be announced as soon as possible," said the minister, referring to a special committee set up by his ministry to determine the poverty line. (In 1982, the Jordan Times published an unofficial study on poverty on Jordan. For usefulness, that study is being reprinted on page 5 of today's Jordan Times.) The Jordan Times has also learned that the office of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is presently working on a similar study to define the poverty line in Jordan.

House approves other laws

During Saturday's Upper House session, senators also approved a draft law covering an



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday confers with a visiting Swedish parliamentary delegation. The meeting was attended by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin (Petra photo).

## Prince Hassan briefs Swedish team on plans to develop West Bank

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday conferred in his office with a visiting Swedish parliamentary delegation which started their visit to Jordan on Friday in the course of a fact-finding tour in the Middle East region.

They discussed Swedish-Jordanian relations and Middle East issues and Prince Hassan briefed the guests on the

political and economic situation in the Israeli-held Arab territory, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

The agency reported that the members of the delegation heard a briefing by Prince Hassan on Jordan's plan for implementing development projects in the occupied territories in order to improve the conditions of the Arab population and to enhance their steadfastness in the face of Israel's arbitrary measures which

aim at evicting the Arab inhabitants from their homeland. Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin was present at the meeting.

After meeting with Prince Hassan, the Swedish delegation was received by Mr. Akel Al Fayed, speaker of the Lower House of Parliament. Discussions at the meeting centred on the Palestine question and parliamentary relations between Sweden and Jordan.

## Government decides to buy 49% public shareholding in AMPCO

By Sa'ad G. Hattar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government decided on Saturday to purchase the remaining 49 per cent of public-owned shares in the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO) thereby converting the JD 10 million investment company into a fully-fledged government organisation, according to an official at the Ministry of Finance.

The official, quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the ministry has taken steps to start purchasing public shares, which total JD 1,073,000, starting next Monday. Ministry of Finance officials were not immediately available to reveal the price that the government was intending to pay for the shares, but one agricultural official said the price would be fixed at JD 10 per share.

Mr. Jamil Zureikat, director general of the Jordan Valley Farmers Association (JVFA) told

the Jordan Times that the ministry's shares in the company will increase to 70 per cent of the total capital and the Social Security Corporation (SSC) and the Pension Fund will have equal shares of 12.5 per cent each. The remaining five per cent will be allocated to the government-owned Agricultural Credit Corporation.

Mr. Zureikat said the company generated a net profit of JD 360,000 in 1985, but figures on the current fiscal year have not yet been released.

Contacted by the Jordan Times, the company's member of the board Mazen Qader said a new board will be elected following the government purchase of public owned shares. Mr. Qader, however, added that the company's current status and operations would not be affected.

Commenting on the government decision to buy the public shares of the AMPCO, Ministry of Agriculture Under Secretary Saleem Al Lawzi said the

move did not have anything to do with the company's financial status, which he termed "as profitable." Dr. Lawzi, who is also acting chairman of the AMPCO board, told the Jordan Times that converting the company into a fully-fledged government-owned organisation would ultimately give company the momentum to support the agricultural sector in the Kingdom.

On whether the shareholders will be given the choice to sell or maintain their investments, Dr. Lawzi said the decision was taken by the ministerial economic security committee and that all shareholders will be requested to sell their shares.

The company was initially set up in 1984 with a government contribution in the form of buildings and apparatus.

Later, the company's capital was reduced from JD 10 million to JD 7 million. A government bid to create an incentive for the public to contribute to the paid-up capital.

## Bankruptcy of two Hunt oil companies in U.S. unlikely to affect subsidiary in Jordan

Government official says financial status of JHOC is 'sound'

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A government official stressed Saturday that the bankruptcy of two major U.S. oil companies, owned by the Hunt family, was not expected to hurt the financial standing of Jordan Hunt Oil, a subsidiary which recently won a \$20.25 million concession for oil exploration in the Kingdom.

The Hunts filed for bankruptcy in Dallas on behalf of Placid Oil company Friday, less than 48 hours after a federal judge denied a request to prevent the seizure of Placid's assets, together with the assets of Penrod Drilling Company. The companies are two of the crown jewels of the Hunt family business in the United States.

The government official, who asked not to be identified, defended Jordan Hunt Oil's financial status which he described as "absolutely sound" and said that the government had obtained all necessary information about the company before signing the contract. He repeated assurances by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai last week that the firm "is a respected, independent and experienced company which is considered one of the world's leading institutions in the oil business."

Mr. Rifai told parliament on Tuesday that "we concluded our agreement with Hunt only after we gathered all information about the company's experience."

The official said the

government confirmed the company's sound financial situation and is still following upon the matter through several financial and banking institutions including the Central Bank of Jordan, the Arab Bank, and a Texas-based consultant. He said the government here has an irrevocable \$4 million guarantee issued by a local bank on behalf of the company.

The government signed an agreement on Aug. 8 with Jordan Hunt Oil Company (JHOC), a subsidiary of the Dallas-based Hunt Oil Company. Under the agreement, the company will be conducting various oil exploration projects covering 8,806 square kilometres in the Jafr area in the Kingdom's south.

Reports from Dallas carried by international news agencies on the Hunt family's decision to file for bankruptcy on behalf of two of their major oil companies, caused concern about Hunt Oil's financial status and Jordan's agreement with the company.

The government official stressed that there was "no doubt

whatsoever" about the company's ability to fulfil the terms of its agreement with the government. The agreement was signed by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib and Mr. Ray Hunt on behalf of Hunt Oil.

In a news dispatch from Dallas, Reuter reported that a group of 23 irate lenders had threatened to foreclose on the two debt-ridden firms.

It said that lawyers for Nelson Bunker Hunt, Herbert Hunt and Lamar Hunt, the three eldest sons of H.L. Hunt, have acknowledged that the bankruptcy petition filed Friday was necessary to protect Placid and Penrod from foreclosures by banks seeking repayment of \$1.5 billion. Mr. Ray Hunt is the step-brother of the three owners of the two debt-ridden companies.

According to economists interviewed by Reuter, the rise and fall of the Texas clan's fortune "could ultimately end with the dismantling of the family trust's vast energy and real estate empire."

"The Hunts are screaming, fighting and kicking as they go down," said Harold Gross, an economist at Southern Methodist University. "It's easy to see why — they are having one of the biggest business reversals in history."

Hunt Oil Company's officials, who have not yet established an office in Amman, were not immediately available for comment.

## Rifai to patronise talks on administration

AMMAN (J.T.) — The International Association of Institutes and Schools of Administration (IAISA) will open a meeting here on Tuesday under the patronage of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

Delegates representing administration institutes and administration development centres around the world will take part in the three-day meeting to discuss the general work of public organisations, new trends in administration and public services, training personnel employed by public organisations and other related topics.

The conference will be held in cooperation with the Amman-based Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences (AOAS).

An AOAS spokesman said that participants have already started gathering in Amman, which will also host the 20th International Congress of Administrative Sciences to be held here between Sept. 6 and Sept. 10. The congress, organised by the Brussels-based International Institute of Administrative Sciences and the AOAS will address itself to discussing economic changes and administrative reform.

The congress will also focus on topics related to general administration in the Arab World. A spokesman for the AOAS said that the organisation has prepared a detailed study on administration in the Arab World and that the study will be presented as a document of reference in the conference which will be attended by key ministers from the Arab World, prominent administrators and scholars.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Cabinet okays EIB loan accord

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet on Saturday endorsed a loan agreement with the European Investment Bank (EIB) which plans to lend Jordan JD 6.5 million. The loan will be used to finance projects undertaken by the Industrial Cities Corporation at Sahab industrial estate.

### Turkish envoy holds reception

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turkish Ambassador to Jordan Semih Belezli Saturday held a reception on the occasion of the 64th anniversary of Turkey's Army Day. The reception was attended by senior government officials and members of the Arab and foreign diplomatic corps.

### GUVS opens workshop for teachers

IRBID (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Irbid Saturday opened a workshop to train women teachers at kindergartens on modern methods in offering care to pre-school children. Twenty-one teachers taking part in the week-long workshop will be oriented on making educational aids from simple materials. The participants, all employed at GUVS schools in Irbid Governorate, will take part in another workshop in the coming week.

## Health Ministry holds seminar to promote awareness effort

AMMAN (Petra) — The Health Ministry has opened a seminar on the role of medical staff, especially nurses, midwives and health supervisors, in promoting the ministry's health awareness campaign in the Kingdom.

Addressing the opening session was Dr. Suleiman Qubain, the ministry's director of the primary care department, who underlined the importance of spreading health awareness among members of the public with help from staff employed in the medical services. Nurses, medical officers and other medical staff should pay visits to

homes in the course of carrying out this campaign which is designed to make the public more aware about primary health care, he said.

Twenty-five participants are taking part in the seminar designed to promote health awareness and protect citizens from diseases. The participants will discuss food poisoning, health risks in homes and means of avoiding them, health and vaccination campaigns and other related topics. The two-day seminar is being held at the Amra Hotel in Amman.

## Moroccan move surprises very few

(Continued from page 1)

quoted by Reuter said Moroccan workers in Libya now appeared at risk because last year Col. Qadhafi expelled tens of thousands of migrant workers from countries like Egypt and Tunisia with which he is also at loggerheads.

No official figures of the number of Moroccans in Libya have been published but trade union sources here estimate there are up to 30,000.

The opposition sources also told Reuter Col. Qadhafi might resume financial and military support for Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco since 1976 for control of the Western Sahara.

Until the state union treaty was signed with Morocco in August 1984, Libya had supplied cash and large quantities of Soviet-made weapons to the guerrillas.

However, military attaches here said that in the past two years Morocco had turned the tables on

the guerrillas by building nearly 1,600 kilometres of defences along the eastern frontiers of the disputed territory, effectively locking out the guerrillas.

The attaches doubted that there could be a major escalation in the desert war because the Polisario's main backers, Algeria and Libya, both had cash problems due to the slump in oil exports.

They also said the United States was likely to increase military support for Morocco after Rabat's break with Col. Qadhafi and after King Hassan's talks with Mr. Peres which were warmly applauded in Washington.

On television, Friday night, King Hassan revealed that Col. Qadhafi had twice refused to receive special Moroccan envoys sent to explain the nature of the talks with Mr. Peres in the mountain resort of Ifrane.

## Kharyat rejects Israeli claims

(Continued from page 1)

around Al Buraq Wall within the premises of Al Aqsa Mosque," Dr. Kharyat added.

He urged Muslim nations to confront Israel's onslaught on the holy places in the occupied Palestinian land.

Other speakers at the seminar

included former Public Works Minister Raef Nijem, Dr. Mahmoud Ibrahim from the University of Jordan and Dr. Izzat Jaradat from the Ministry of Education who reviewed Palestine's history and Israel's repeated attempts to Judaise the Arab and Islamic places in Arab Jerusalem.

## Non-aligned leaders gather for Harare summit

(Continued from page 1)

celebrate its 25th anniversary next week in Harare, 750 kilometres from the South African border. It is the biggest international gathering held so close to the country regarded as a pariah by much of the world.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, outgoing chairman of the movement, arrived Saturday for the summit.

A troupe of visiting Indian dancers garlanded Mr. Gandhi as he stepped from the Air India jet at Harare airport to be greeted by Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and President Canaan

Banana.

Mr. Mugabe will succeed Mr. Gandhi as leader of the organisation on Monday, the start of the week-long summit.

Mr. Gandhi brought with him King Jigme Singye Wangchuk of Bhutan, which is a small sovereign state.

The leaders of Cyprus, the Seychelles and Vanuatu were already in the capital, staying in villas built by the government which is hosting its most prestigious event since Zimbabwe became independent under black rule six years ago.

Zimbabwe officials said about a dozen more heads of state were

expected through the day.

The government has said some 50 heads of state will attend, including Libya's Muammar Qadhafi, with the rest of the member nations represented by vice presidents or foreign ministers.

Palestine Liberation Organisation chief Yasser Arafat is also scheduled to come. The PLO has full non-aligned membership.

Conference sources said it looked increasingly likely that Nicaragua would fall in its attempt to become the next non-aligned chairman after Zimbabwe in 1989.

## Jalloud rejects U.S. charges against Libya

(Continued from page 1)

Jalloud said.

He said Libya was not "frightened by deployment of the U.S. fleet and aircraft carriers close to the Libyan shores."

"We've taken the decision to die," Maj. Jalloud said. "The hostility of people against America will be increased."

The U.S. aircraft carrier Forrestal completed a joint exercise with Egypt in the Eastern Mediterranean earlier this week and sources in Washington said the ship was resuming patrols in the Central Mediterranean.

Maj. Jalloud said Libya could not live indefinitely under the threat of an American attack.

"The U.S. bears the responsibility. It has become evident that Reagan is the Hitler of the 20th century. He wants to destroy the world," Maj. Jalloud said.

Libya sent the U.S. government a memorandum seeking detailed information about its alleged involvement in terrorism after a U.S. air strike in Libya last April, Maj. Jalloud said, but received no reply.

He said the memorandum was conveyed through the Belgian

embassy in Tripoli, which handles U.S. interests here following the December 1979 sacking of the American embassy by a Libyan mob that resulted in its closure.

Maj. Jalloud warned that a new American attack would provoke Libyan military reaction.

"Europe is a party to American aggression and we warn the Europeans on the other bank of the Mediterranean Sea," he said.

Asked how Libya would respond to another U.S. attack, he said: "If your country was attacked, would you send the attackers chocolates and sweets...?"

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## Cantonisation in Lebanon?

EVERY now and then, the warring sectarian Lebanese leaders meet at random to impress upon the people and the world at large that they do sincerely seek an end to the 11-year-old civil strife that has killed and wounded more than 100,000 people and wantonly destroyed properties and wealth worth billions of dollars. No sooner they issue statements of their resolve after such meetings to find ways and means to end the conflict than a fresh wave of violence erupts, defying all reasonable comprehension. Lately, Prime Minister Rashid Karami held talks with two Christian leaders, Camille Chamoun and Joseph Al Hashem, and expressed hopes of a "happy end" to sectarian conflict. But that did not prove very useful in stopping street violence between rival militias.

It appears as though, by an inexorable process of sectarian strife, Lebanon seems to be splintering, making itself gradually but inevitably ripe for what many suspect to be "cantonisation" of the country. Various efforts made to hold the country together have so far failed miserably. Lebanese "nationalism" is no more the guiding principle that motivates and invigorates political dialogue among Lebanese leaders. To call the sectarian leaders "Lebanese leaders" itself now sounds like a euphemism. For, sectarian interests are for them more important than the unity and integrity of the Lebanese state. Each sect wants to uphold an integrated Lebanon but only if it gets a share of the political pie in advance that would give an advantage over the rest. Hence, it would seem intractable and impossible, even for the Syrians who have a wide leverage in handling Lebanese leaders, to help redeem the situation.

The concept of cantonisation looms large on the political horizon of Lebanon. The constituting elements that would shape it into a concrete reality are apparently present at the moment, though many may fight shy of admitting it. First, an efficient central army should be considered the nuts and bolts of law and order in a country. This is what Lebanon still lacks, despite all efforts by the sectarian leaders to coalesce all their supporting militias into a single fighting unit to serve the central government. These efforts were never serious because they were not willing to dismantle their respective militias whose role they considered more important in safeguarding their sectarian interests. Second, the militias, owing allegiance to various leaders, have now begun to organise themselves into regular forces, ready to function as fighting units for their respective cantons if needs be or to outfit the rivals and capture the central administration. The militias are being trained in the use of heavy weapons, procured from independent sources. Sectarial leaders budget their militias separately and command them to battle whenever their perceived interests are threatened by others.

The people do not seem to have a say in the future of the Lebanese state. The silent majority patiently bears the political vagaries of the militia leaders. When fighting stops on the streets of Beirut, the people give a sigh of relief and say perhaps peace may now be around the corner. Their hopes disappear the next moment when it starts all over again with a reckless fury. To paraphrase Georges Clemenceau of France: People don't know whether street battle by the militias is an interlude to peace or peace an interlude to renewed street battle for sectarian interests.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Positive Soviet move

THE current tour of Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov in the Middle East region bears clear indication that Moscow is now more determined than ever to stimulate efforts for reviving the peace process in the region. The tour and Vorontsov's talks with leaders of Jordan and Syria also point to the fact that Moscow is intent on paving the way for convening an international conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli question. Such a conference, as Moscow and the Arab countries believe, will no doubt contribute towards ending the conflict in the region. This renewed Soviet political activity in our region ought to be appreciated rather than shunned by Washington, because it is positive and objective. Washington should abandon its old and futile stands and its belief that the Middle East question is its sole property, and that the United States alone has the right to tackle the Arab-Israeli conflict. We urge the United States to take a more positive stand vis-a-vis Moscow's political moves, and we call on the Arab countries to unify their ranks and try to benefit from the new development so that they can give further momentum to international efforts aimed at stimulating the peace process. The Soviet move should be regarded as a satisfactory step and one that is also aimed at thwarting Israel's hopes of exercising pressure on Moscow for forcing it to accept the idea of Soviet Jews emigration to Israel in return for a restoration of Soviet-Israeli diplomatic ties. Moscow now seems determined not to restore such ties as long as the Israelis continue to occupy Arab land and reject the idea of peace.

### Al Dustour: Calling on the Soviet Union

JORDAN clearly appreciates Moscow's interest in finding a solution to the Arab-Israeli question and its determination to convene an international conference for the sake of finding a just and lasting solution to the conflict in the Middle East. Both Moscow and Amman seemed to have identical views on this question at talks held here Friday between Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and the visiting Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister. Both sides agreed in the talks that a solution for the Middle East problem cannot be achieved except through an international parity attended by all concerned parties including the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. Such convergence of views between the two sides on the one hand and between the Arab Nation and Moscow on the other is an essential element for reviving the peace process. The two sides discussed another serious question, namely the Iran-Iraq war; and both seemed to agree on the point that the war in the Gulf region is no less dangerous than the Arab-Israeli conflict, threatening peace and security in the region. We indeed appreciate the Soviet stand and are grateful for Moscow's clear backing for the Arab Nation's just cause, and its drive to achieve a durable and just peace in the Middle East. We hope that Moscow will not let loose the reins of this renewed initiative and allow Washington to assume sole monopoly of the question. We hope that the Soviet Union will shoulder its international responsibility and achieve political balance in our region so that it can lend further momentum to the peace process.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan's commitment to peace

JORDAN has been intensifying its efforts for reviving the Mideast peace process and has been seeking Arab solidarity in this respect and enlisting cooperation and backing from world nations. In pursuit of this effort, King Hussein and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai held talks with the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov in Amman Friday and discussed means of achieving peace through an international conference. The meetings in Amman and Jordan's firm position toward the Arab-Israeli conflict clearly reflect this country's commitment to peace and that it will never succumb to pressures or any forms of blackmail. The talks and the subsequent statement reiterating Amman's position clearly indicate that Jordan is totally committed to Arab consensus on the question of the Arab-Israeli conflict and that Amman will never seek partial solutions with Israel. Despite the prevailing pitiable situation in the Arab World and despite the divisions plaguing Arab countries, Jordan has been pursuing efforts to rally the Arabs and revive the peace process. Jordan, like the rest of the Arab countries, is concerned over the continued Israeli occupation of Arab land, and also the on-going Gulf war that has been draining away precious Arab resources. For this reason, Amman made it a point of discussing these two chronic issues with Moscow's envoy in a bid to give momentum for initiatives seeking peace in both regions.

## SUNDAY'S ECONOMIC PULSE

# Is Jordan ready for privatisation?

By Dr. Fahed Faneek

THE role of the private sector in Jordan is difficult to quantify. Official statistics are not always helpful in this regard. They do not differentiate between purely-held private sector concerns and publicly-owned enterprises. Statistics for example, classify Jordan Phosphate Mines Company under the private sector, simply because it takes the form of a shareholding company, even though the public sector owns 90 per cent of its paid-up capital, and performs all of its management and decision making process.

Therefore, one cannot easily turn to official statistics or national accounts to find out the exact amount of contribution of the private or public sectors to production, investment, employment and exports.

With a much educated guess, one can estimate that the public

sector employs 45 per cent of the country's workforce, produces 40 per cent of gross national product, contributes 50 per cent of the capital formation, and is responsible for 30 per cent of our exports.

The public sector grew rapidly during the seventies and early eighties, thanks to Arab financial aid which made extensive public expenditure possible.

The government now feels that perhaps it is time to turn parts of the public sector to private investors. Privatisation is becoming increasingly acceptable in Jordan. The expression has started circulating among officials and economists since 1985 with the advent of the present government. We are yet to coin an Arabic term for the word "privatisation".

Last week the government announced that it approved of

privatisation in principle, provided this happened gradually, and after thorough evaluation and extensive studies. Apparently the corporations targeted for privatisation are the Telecommunications Corporation, the Public Transport Corporation, and Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline.

It seems the authorities are not sure yet how to go about privatisation beyond making the decision in principle. One minister declared that the Telecommunications Corporation may become a general shareholding company with 100 per cent of the shares held by the government. This means that the institution will continue to be a public sector concern, but will not be bound by governmental regulations and red-tape. It will therefore not be subject to the inspection of the government

Audit Bureau. The management would continue to be the same but would be given more free hand in running the company.

Privatisation, economists agree, includes three branches which complement each other and which should be considered together in order for the change to make sense and yield the desired results. These are: denationalisation, deregulation and contracting.

Contracting means that the government must contract to the private sector the production of goods and services that the public sector provides or sells to the people, such as housing, roads, education and health services.

Deregulation means floating prices and quantities, reduced protection and easy entry to, or exit from, the market together with and relaxation or abolishing of authority to license businesses and professions by governmental

bodies.

Finally, denationalisation means selling public corporations to the private sector, on the assumption that private owners are more motivated and more efficient than civil servants in running businesses.

For some reason, privatisation in Jordan is synonymous with denationalisation, and completely divorced from the other two wings, namely deregulation and contracting. Commonsense tells us that denationalisation should be the last phase in the process of privatisation, preceded by the prerequisite of deregulation and contracting in order to create the right atmosphere for privatisation to become possible and meaningful.

The present circumstances may not be the best timing for

denationalisation. The private sector at this particular time may not be willing or able to take over big undertakings like telecommunications or air transport. However, these corporations should start to adjust themselves to the expected eventualities. Despite the wholehearted enthusiasm of Mrs. Thatcher of Britain, privatisation of British Airways has so far taken over five years of internal preparations by a new management and is not yet finalised. It is not known when, if ever, British Airways will become a private shareholding company.

In the meanwhile we must start liberalising the market forces, relaxing the licensing process, abolishing pricing, and dismantling most activities unnecessarily performed by the Ministry of Supplies.

## Bhutto's philosophy haunts Pakistan long after his death

By Barry Renfrew  
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Zulfikar Ali Bhutto since said he would rule Pakistan from his grave.

Seven years after he was hanged, his name and his philosophy of Bhuttoism continue to haunt and divide the nation he had led as president and then prime minister from 1971 to 1977. Bhutto and Bhuttoism provoke particularly fierce responses in a country long torn by political violence and repression.

Some Pakistanis today describe Bhutto as a ruthless tyrant who tried to turn Pakistan into his personal estate, taking whatever he wanted and crushing anyone who tried to protest.

His followers regard him as a messiah who tried to liberate the country's poor masses.

Bhutto's followers, including many who are too young to remember him, live in hope that his daughter and political heir, Benazir Bhutto, will lead them back into power. Other Pakistanis, including many in the army and the government bureaucracy, are equally determined to destroy Bhuttoism as a threat to their power and national stability.

Critics charge Miss Bhutto is as autocratic and arrogant as her father. They maintain many will suffer if she takes power.

Miss Bhutto's hopes of taking her father's place appeared to have faltered in a government crackdown in the opposition in mid-August. She and hundreds of other opposition leaders were jailed and security forces put down anti-government riots in which at least 29 people died.

The government of President General Muhammad Zia Ul Haq, who also is the army commander, emerged from its latest confrontation with Bhuttoism in complete control. But few political observers in Pakistan have written off Miss Bhutto or the continuing appeal of Bhuttoism.

The spell of Bhuttoism was demonstrated when Miss Bhutto returned home in April from self-exile to be greeted by what were thought to be the biggest crowds in Pakistani history. Hundreds of thousands of people turned out at rallies as she toured the country calling on the people to oust Zia, who ousted Bhutto in a military coup in 1977.

No other political party, including the governing Pakistan Muslim League, has been able to field crowds anything like Miss Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples Party. Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo ordered the crackdown on the opposition after he had to

cancel an Aug. 14 rally of his Muslim League out of fear it would be swamped by a rival Peoples Party meeting.

Bhuttoism, the creed developed by Bhutto after he took power as president in 1971 following national elections, is a vague mix of modern and traditional ideas. Bhutto once described his creed as a combination of democracy, socialism and Islam to liberate the poor, but opponents called it mainly a projection of his personality and rule.

A charismatic leader and a compelling speaker, Bhutto earned the adoration of many poor Pakistanis by saying that he spoke for them and would end their deep poverty and backwardness.

Millions were galvanised by his oratory and the idea that someone stood for them in a country dominated for most of its history by elitist authoritarian military and civilian governments.

Bhutto is credited with reforming sections of Pakistan's political and economic life and improving the condition in some ways of the poor and the peasants who make up most of the population.

But many historians and other observers agree that Bhutto quickly lost sight of democracy and the masses. Like Pakistani rulers before and since, Bhutto decided he alone knew what was best for the country.

It behaved like any other government, elitist and authoritarian. It exhibited an utter disrespect for democratic traditions and an absolute intolerance for dissent," said the newspaper the Muslim in an analysis this past April of Bhutto's administration.

Bhutto's special security forces terrorised opponents as the prime minister moved toward the creation of a one-party state. At the same time, the government was notorious for corruption and cronyism while the economy

Gen. Zia ousted Bhutto in a military coup amid nationwide disturbances. Bhutto was hanged two years later after being convicted of conspiring to kill a political opponent. Zia lifted martial law this past December after appointing Junejo to head a civilian government but he remains as president and army commander.

Zia is a devout Muslim who justifies many of his actions in the name of Islam. He has said his policies rest on building an Islamic state. Pakistan's laws have been extensively revised on the basis of Islamic teachings, but "Islamisation" has tended to remain more theory than fact.

## Opposition to selling arms to Jordan based on Israel's interest, not that of America

By Jirjis S. Sweis

The following article first appeared in Jan. 3, 1986 issue of The Courier-Journal which is published in Louisville, Kentucky, U.S.A. The writer is an American of Jordan descent who has been teaching in U.S. schools for the last 15 years.

COURIER-JOURNAL editorials dealing with the sale of U.S. arms to Jordan have been one-sided, failing to give fair treatment to the subject.

The sale of \$1.5-\$2 billion worth of advanced warplanes, missiles and other gear to Jordan, which has been proposed by the president was postponed until at least March 1 — apparently to be killed by then. The action, which followed opposition to the sale by the pro-Israel lobby in Congress, was not in the American interest.

In fact, our policy in the Middle East (if we have one) is being shaped not by our government, acting on the behalf of the U.S. national and international interest, but by a foreign country, acting in that country's interest. Our senators who are supposed to look out for the American interest, should approve the arms sale, if not because it is good

business for our country then for the following reasons:

— Jordan and its leader, King Hussein, have been America's traditional allies and true friends for the last 30 years.

— The Commerce Department estimates that 24,000 jobs are created or sustained for every billion dollars worth of exports.

— Congressional studies report that American equipment is safe in Jordan and serves our interest. — Jordan's need for arms is for self-defence only. Last fall, The New York Times published an independent report, prepared at the request of the White House, which testifies to that.

— Israel is the world's fourth strongest military power (thanks to money and arms provided by American taxpayers); defensive equipment for Jordan does not threaten its might.

— Jordan's latest proposals for

a Mideast-peace formula prove its peaceful intentions, and it deserves our support.

Much has been made of Jordan's relations with the PLO. It is obvious that this is being exaggerated and that this country — or the Senate, at any rate — remains brainwashed by the pro-Israel lobby, linking all Palestinians and their actions with terrorism.

There are almost 2 million Palestinians inside Israel, on the West Bank and in Gaza. Another 2 million, forced from their homes and land, live in refugee camps in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

It happens that the Palestinian people, for the most part, look upon Arafat as their leader and the PLO as their government in exile. Regardless of what we think of them and how bad the image of them created in our country, the PLO and its leaders are Cub Scouts at a Sunday-school picnic compared to Israeli leaders such as Begin, Sharon, Shamir, Kahane and others.

At the core of the Mideast problem are the human rights of Palestinians who have been living

under savage occupation for the last 18 years. Until their rights are assured and their aspirations are met, there will never be peace.

It took the Arab countries almost 30 years to swallow their pride and realise that Israel is a fact and is here to stay, regardless of their feelings about it. Now it is time for Israelis to bite the same bullet, no matter how painful it might be, and do the same regarding the Palestinian people.

Jordan has faced up to both realities, and is trying to find a common ground between Palestinian aspirations and Israeli fears. Its peace plan, which is built on justice, deserves the support of the Reagan administration and Congress.

Unfortunately, we still have greedy politicians who have sold themselves for the interest of a few, forgetting the interest of our country as a whole. I wonder if these senators will have the courage to vote against the next handout for Israel until it leaves the West Bank or sits down with the Palestinian people.

## Non-aligned summit to focus on S. Africa, Third World wars

By John Edlin  
The Associated Press

JIARARE, Zimbabwe — South Africa and its racial turmoil will be a top agenda item as 60 presidents, prime ministers and leaders of the world's non-aligned nations meet here next week.

"It's a southern African summit," the host, Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, declared recently. "We have quite a hot issue here which requires the urgent attention of the whole progressive international community."

But the eighth summit of the 102 nations of the Non-Aligned Movement, which coincides with the 25th anniversary of its founding Sept. 1, 1961, also will be a forum for other major concerns of Third World nations.

The participants are worried about burgeoning foreign debt, unfavourable terms of trade with the industrialised West and superpower jockeying for influence and prestige at the expense of smaller nations.

Other issues include the protracted war between Iran and Iraq, civil conflicts and a host of grievances ranging from that of the Palestinians to the East Timorians of Indonesia.

The summit, Sept. 1-7, will be preceded by a preparatory gathering of foreign ministers and other government officials

starting Tuesday and ending Saturday.

A stylized white dove of peace is the emblem of the meeting of leaders representing a third of the world's population and two-thirds of the countries in the United Nations.

Jiarare was chosen over Belgrade, Yugoslavia, the birthplace of the Non-Aligned Movement, to cast a spotlight on white-minority rule in South Africa and that country's control of South-West Africa (Namibia).

Mugabe, leader of Africa's newest independent black state and non-aligned chairman for the next three years, fought a 7-year war to bring black rule in April 1980 to what was formerly the white-ruled British colony of Rhodesia.

He supports guerrilla efforts to topple the Pretoria government, but wants to defuse conflicts within the Third World. In particular Mugabe says he wants to act as mediator in the 6-year-old war between Iran and Iraq.

The last non-aligned summit in New Delhi, India, in 1983 called for a cease-fire in the Gulf war which has claimed at least half a million lives. Since then the conflict has escalated.

Mugabe, whose country recognises Iran and Iraq, has conferred with several top-level delegations from the warring

nations since he was asked to host the 1986 summit last September.

Other issues that may be raised include:

— The continued presence in Afghanistan, a non-aligned member, of Soviet troops fighting guerrillas backed by neighbouring Pakistan and the United States.

— Libya's support in Chad, a former French African colony, of rebels in ousted President Goukouni Oueddei.

— Argentina's longstanding claim to the Falkland Islands, a British colony in the South Atlantic which was the scene of a 1982 war between Buenos Aires and London.

— U.S. backing for contra guerrillas fighting to bring down the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

— Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia and Prince Norodom Sihanouk's claim, through a three-party coalition, to leadership of the South East Asian nation.

— Morocco's occupation of Western Sahara, recognised as the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic by a quarter of the non-aligned countries. Guerrillas of the Polisario Front, backed by Algeria and Libya, have fought to control the region for more than a decade.

— Indonesia's annexation of East Timor and its decade-long war against Fretilin guerrillas

demanding independence.

Mugabe is already on record as criticising the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia, the Soviet military role in Afghanistan and the Indonesian annexation of East Timor. He also consistently has attacked American, British and West German policies in South Africa.

Previous summits were held in Algiers, Belgrade, Cairo, Colombo, Havana, Lusaka and New Delhi by the non-aligned nations, which seek to establish a third international power bloc independent of the superpowers.

Some members, such as Afghanistan, Cuba, Libya, Nicaragua, Syria and Vietnam, have close ties to Moscow. But conference organisers point out the summit will also be attended by such Western-backed countries as Argentina, Ivory Coast, Saudi Arabia and Zaire.

Dignitaries expected in Jiarare include Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India, outgoing chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, as well as presidents Fidel Castro of Cuba, Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua, Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and Muammar Qadhafi of Libya.

Zimbabwe leaders have expressed fear South Africa may send troops into its northern neighbour to divert attention from the main thrust of the summit.

## Reagan in dilemma as U.S. sanctions deadline nears

By Sue Baker  
Reuters

WASHINGTON — President Reagan's limited sanctions against South Africa expire on September 9 and he appears caught in a dilemma over new, stronger measures urged by Congress and his international allies.

The president opposes harsh sanctions against the racially-segregated republic but the pressure is such that his choice is not whether to impose some new measures — but when, how many and under what circumstances.

Congressional aides define Reagan's dilemma as whether to try to preempt final action in Congress on broader sanctions by extending the limited measures he imposed last year, or to hold off action until the end of September when European nations may make a decision on further sanctions.

If he waits, he risks a tough congressional bill landing on his desk and the equally tough

decision whether or not to veto. But if he acts early, he risks accepting more restrictions than may prove necessary.

"There are some indications that (administration officials) are thinking about how they could short-circuit the Congress," a house Africa subcommittee aide told Reuters.

Administration officials have said Reagan could decide to extend the limited measures he imposed under stiff congressional pressure in an executive order last September.

The officials said he could also add some additional measures, such as a withdrawal of landing rights for South African airlines and denying visas to Pretoria officials.

"It's a possibility," the House aide said. "But based on what (Reagan's) been saying, it's doubtful he could come up with an executive order that would satisfy even the Senate," which is controlled by the president's Republican Party.

At this time last year, Reagan succeeded in heading off

congressional action with his executive order banning imports of Kruggerend gold coins and exports of nuclear and computer technology to the South African government and its agencies.

The Senate voted 84-14 earlier this month for a package of broad sanctions and the House in June passed an even tougher measure. A compromise version, likely to resemble the Senate bill, is expected to reach Reagan's desk by mid-September.

The House bill calls for a near-total embargo on two-way trade with South Africa and the withdrawal of all U.S. companies within six months.

The Senate package includes a ban on all new U.S. investments in South Africa and U.S. commercial loans to the private sector, a ban on imports of uranium, coal, iron, steel, textiles and agricultural products and on air links between the two countries.

But even if Reagan decided to include all or most of the measures in the Senate package, aides said it was unlikely to satisfy a majority of legislators who want to see

sanctions enacted into law and not left at Reagan's discretion to lift or alter at will.

Other U.S. officials, however, have said Reagan wants to delay a decision until Britain and the other 11 European Community (EC) nations meet in late September at a session which could adopt further sanctions.

"The administration is... seeking to promote collective action with our allies... in order to have the most effective influence on all parties in South Africa," White House spokesman Larry Speakes said after the August 15 Senate vote.

Another option is for Reagan to dig in his heels and do nothing in the hope that Congress will be unable to complete its sanctions package in the few working weeks it has left before recessing in early October.

Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher also remains opposed to punitive economic sanctions against the white-dominated, Pretoria government but softened her stance slightly earlier this month,



agreeing to a voluntary halt to new investment and the promotion of tourism.

Thatcher also agreed to go along with the EC if it decides on a ban on imports of coal, steel and uranium at its meeting next month. But she is opposed to a

landing rights ban.

If Reagan imposes further measures in an executive order, it could put Thatcher under increased pressure at that meeting to do likewise — a prospect neither would relish.



The following article is reprinted, in its original form, from the June 5, 1982 issue of the Jordan Times. To the best of our knowledge, the study has been neither amended nor updated since then.

## Study on poverty, income distribution

# 30% of the population in Jordan lives below the 'relative' poverty line

By Dr. Jarir S. Dajani

QUESTIONS often arise about the definition of poverty levels, the extent of poverty and income distribution in Jordan. Even in countries where an adequate data base exists, these questions can be troublesome and controversial. Trouble arises specifically with respect to what is considered to be "income", how to handle "non cash" family income, how to handle in-kind public services which are offered to the population, and how to obtain data which is both correct and meaningful. Problems also arise because of variations in expectations in different countries, which lead to a situation where the poor of a certain country are considered to be affluent by the standards of another.

In spite of these difficulties,

This is particularly true since no data exists on income and expenditure patterns of the poor, and since many services are available to them in Jordan, including free education and cheap health care. Income disparities between urban and rural areas make it desirable to define these levels for at least these two types of areas. It is also useful to differentiate between the level of "absolute" poverty, which is the level at which only the most basic of human needs are possible, and a level of "relative" poverty which represents the level below which a group of people are considered to be poor by the cultural and social standards of the community. At both of those levels, constraints for upward mobility are usually the most severe. While there are no studies which indicate

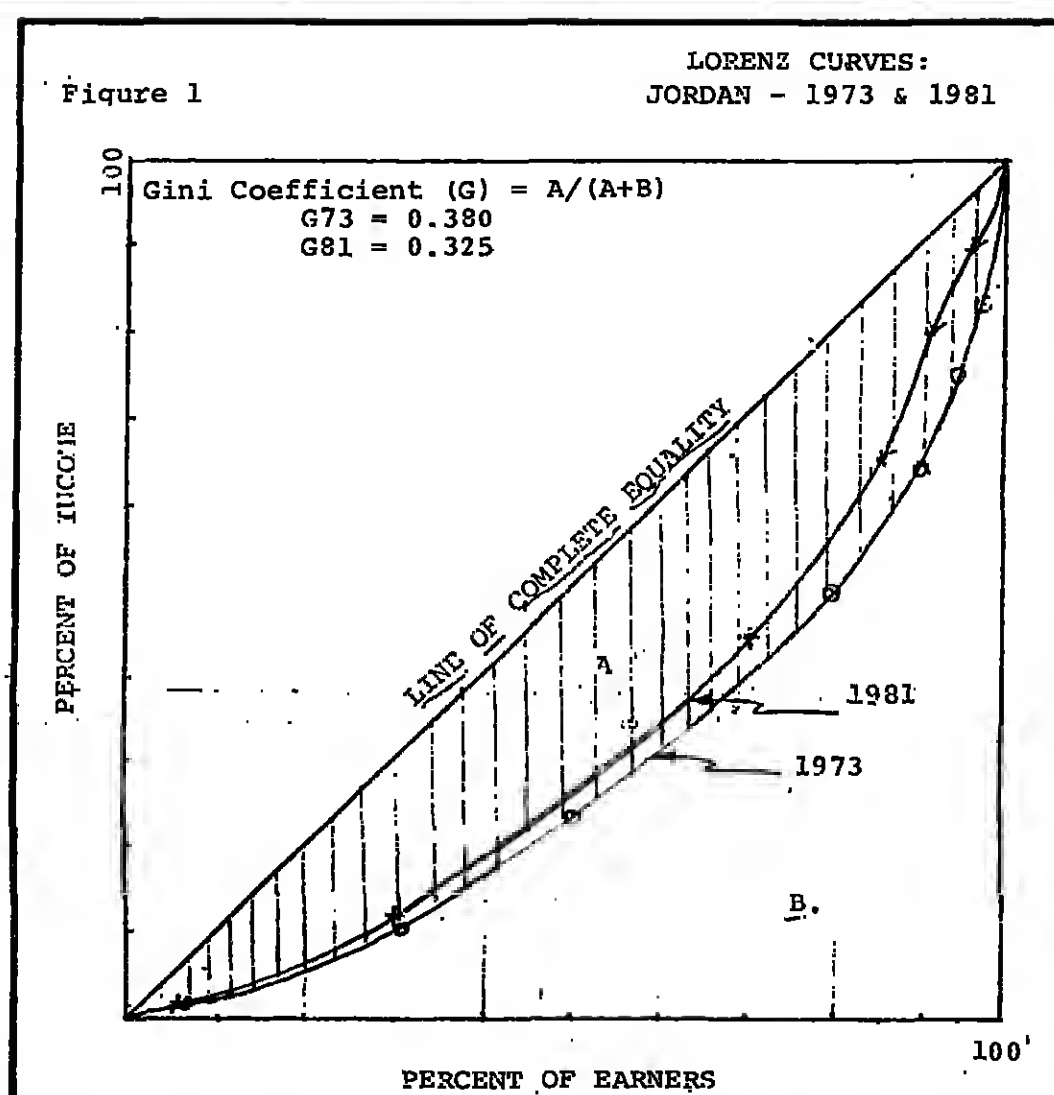
(In a recent article in the Jordan Weekly "Al Oufuq", 12-18 May 1982, the economic editor estimates average monthly household income to be JD 195. Using a poverty level of 47 per cent of that income, he arrives at a poverty line of JD 92/HH/mth. He further estimates that 25 per cent of Jordan's households earn less than that.)

### Extent of Poverty.

A recent survey (May 1981) which was conducted as part of study for the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) has produced some indication of the income distribution in the Amman-Zarqa region, both urban and rural. This survey covered 1091 households, information on which was obtained by interviewing students belonging to them on future education and employment prospects.

Income data was in one sense a by-product of the study. While this may not be the ideal approach to obtaining income data, the results seem reasonable and representative. The data seem to be the best now available for Jordan, given the concentration of Jordan's population in the Amman urban region and the highly urbanised nature of the population. These data probably are very indicative for Jordan as a whole.

The results of this study are given in Table 1. These results show that 5.5 per cent of the households surveyed reported monthly incomes of JD 50 or less, i.e. the absolute poverty level. They also show that another 24.5 per cent of the households have reported incomes of between JD 50 and JD 99 per month, which is the relative poverty line. A recent study in Kerak indicates that 8.9



per cent of the households surveyed had income of JD 59 per month or less; that another 17.9 per cent had incomes between JD 59 and JD 99 per month. To the extent that these sources of information are representative, it seems that about 30 per cent of the

population lives below the relative line, as postulated in this paper.

### Income Distribution

The results reported in the VTC survey described above (and shown in Table 1) indicate that the poorest 30 per cent of the population earn 11.5 per cent of the total income earned in the country. One fifth of all income is earned by the top-earning 6.2 per cent of the population. The median income is JD 150/HH/mth (\$790/cap/yr), while the mean is JD 185/HH/mth (\$970/cap/yr). The difference between the mean and the median indicates the skewed distribution in favour of the better-to-do.

In an attempt to obtain some cross-sectional picture of the change in income distribution, the data obtained by the 1973 distribution study were compared to the results obtained from the VTC survey. In conducting this comparison, the 1973 "factor income" which includes wages, salaries, self-employment and capital income, was used. The figures were inflated by a factor of 2.5, which represents the 150 per cent increase in the published cost of living figures between 1973 and mid-1981. The figures were also adjusted to convert them from personal to household incomes. The results are shown in Table 2 which shows the distribution in both 1973 and 1981, in 1981 dinars. A number of observations can be made:

(1) The share of total income earned by the poorest 30 per cent of the population remained remarkably constant at 11.5 per cent.

(2) Real gains in income for the lowest 40 per cent of the populations are negligible: 5.3 per cent for the fourth decile, probably not significantly different from zero for the lowest three deciles. Income increases received by this group essentially kept pace with inflation so that improve-

ments to their standard of living which may have occurred would usually be attributable to expanded access to government social services.

(3) Real gains in income have occurred for the upper 6 deciles, with the percentage increase in real income increasing with increase in income.

(4) A possible problem arises with respect to the highest income group. The 1973 survey indicates that the top one per cent of the population earned 11.63 per cent of the income. The VTC survey has not shown any household in this open-ended (more than JD 1000 per month) category. There is no reason to believe that this category has vanished and it is not clear whether their share of the wealth has increased or diminished. We assume an increase.

(5) The general distribution of income has improved slightly when measured by its distance from the completely equitable distribution. The Gini coefficient has probably dropped from 0.380 in 1973 to 0.325 in 1981 (see figure 1). While the poor did not make any gains, and thus have not contributed to the improvement in the distribution, there may be a slight improvement in the distribution of wealth among middle and upper-middle income groups. Some of these apparent slight gains, however, may be attributed to the absence of the top 1 per cent from the 1981 survey.

(6) The per cent of the population who earn less than JD 100 in 1981 dinars, seems to remain at a stable 30 per cent in both years (1973-1981).

Jarir S. Dajani is a professor of Infrastructure in planning and Management at Stanford University in California, USA. During the past year he lectured at the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University, on a leave of absence from Stanford. The above study is part of a research he carried out in Jordan.

	Absolute Poverty		Relative Poverty	
	JD/HH/mth	\$/cap/yr	JD/HH/mth	\$/cap/yr
Urban	60	315	120	630
Rural	40	210	80	420
Nationwide	50	260	100	520

which become more severe in countries without an adequate data base such as Jordan, it is necessary to attempt to estimate poverty levels and the distribution of wealth, on the basis of both judgement and whatever information exists. The following paragraphs will discuss and present available information on poverty levels, extent of poverty, and income distribution. Unless otherwise stated, all income figures mentioned are monthly household incomes. An average household in Jordan consists of 6.7 persons and has 1.5 workers.

### Poverty Levels

The determination of poverty levels is perhaps one of the most difficult aspects of the problem.

where these lines should be drawn, the only nationwide income study Royal Scientific Society (RSS) 1973 of which I am aware indicates that average rural incomes were then about two-thirds of average urban incomes. It is probably reasonable to assume that a rural family earning two-thirds of its urban counterpart, was then as well off, at the basic-needs level. This is due to a lower-cost of living and to the typical availability of home-grown and raised food stuffs. The following numbers are probably reasonable estimates of the two poverty levels in rural and urban areas. The relative poverty line is set at about half the average household monthly income in 1981.

Table 1  
Income Distribution Among  
Surveyed Households

Monthly HH Income	No. in Sample	% of sample	Cumm. % of sample	Amount	% of Amount	Cumm. % of Amount
Less than 50	60	5.5	5.5	3000	1.5	1.5
50 - 99	267	24.5	30.0	20025	10.0	11.5
100 - 199	448	41.1	71.1	67200	33.5	45.0
200 - 299	164	15.0	86.0	41000	20.4	65.4
300 - 399	85	7.8	93.8	29750	14.8	80.2
400 - 499	27	2.5	96.3	12150	6.0	86.2
500 - 599	17	1.6	97.9	9350	4.7	90.9
600 - 699	7	0.6	98.5	4350	2.3	93.2
700 - 799	5	0.5	99.0	3750	1.8	95.0
800 - 899	5	0.5	99.5	5100	2.6	97.6
900 - 999	5	0.5	100.0	4750	2.4	100.0
More than 1000	0	0	100.00	0	0	100.0

(VTC Study, May 1981).

Change in Income Distribution			Table 2		
% of population	1973 % of total income	Income range (JD/HH/mth)	1973 - 1981 % of total income	1981 Income range (JD/HH/mth)	% Change in Group Av.
Lowest 10%	2.2%	60	3.3%	68.00	
2nd 10%	4.1%	60 - 84	4.1%	68 - 80	2.7%
3rd 10%	5.2%	84 - 100	4.8%	80 - 100	2.1%
4th 10%	6.0%	100 - 112	8.1%	100 - 124	5.3%
5th 10%	6.0%	112 - 125	8.2%	124 - 148	14.7%
6th 10%	7.8%	125 - 145	8.1%	148 - 173	18.8%
7th 10%	8.5%	145 - 176	8.2%	173 - 197	15.2%
8th 10%	10.8%	176 - 192	13.0%	197 - 260	24.2%
9th 10%	13.6%	192 - 275	15.7%	260 - 350	30.6%
10th 10%	35.8%	275	28.2%	350	

(Incomes in 1973 are based on the distribution of "factor incomes" obtained by the 1973 draft study of the Royal Scientific Society. The 1973 figures have been adjusted by inflation during the period 1973-81 which amounted to 150 per cent. They have been converted from

individual to household income by assuming an average of 1.5 workers/household. "Factor income" includes wages, salaries, self employment and capital income).

## U.S. researches deadlier-than-H-bomb weapons

By Anthony Tucker

THE U.S. Air Force is considering seriously whether anti-matter could become an energy source for extremely compact and powerful weapons in the next 20 years.

Use of anti-matter — which is made of particles that are the mirror image of ordinary matter — would be the most important weapons development since the atomic bomb.

Following recent developments in high energy physics, a U.S. Rand Corporation report has advised investigation of anti-matter as a weapons material.

The U.S. military has set up a scientific task force to examine the feasibility of adding a preliminary anti-matter study to the Star Wars R and D programme.

When anti-matter meets and annihilates ordinary matter it releases enormous amounts of energy — hundreds of times more than the same mass releases in the hydrogen bomb process.

Very small amounts are already created in large particle accelerators — "atom smashers" — and initial cost estimates for a programme aimed at creating anti-matter in "militarily interesting" amounts — a few milligrams a year — range up to \$10 billion over 15 years.

This is comparable with other weapons expenditure and unlikely to daunt the White House.

The Rand Corporation study, reported in Nature but already technically out of date, suggests that problems surrounding the use of anti-matter to power rocket motors, X-ray lasers and beam weapons could be solved in five years.

One important aspect of the anti-matter reaction is that it can occur anywhere, without needing conditions to be created by a complex weapons system. Thus if adequate amounts of anti-matter can be created and handled, the design of energy and weapons devices might be relatively simple.

In rocket propulsion, annihilation of hydrogen by anti-hydrogen could produce effective exhaust velocities approaching the speed of light, an enormous advance.

In weapons, a gram of material — the weight of an airgun pellet — could have explosive energy equivalent to almost 50,000 tonnes of TNT.

There is a great deal of science, most of it far from speculative, behind the decision of the U.S. Air Force to set up a research programme into anti-matter as an energy source. It goes back, not to the Starship Enterprise and Captain Kirk holly going into split infinitives, but to the great English physicist Paul Dirac who, 56 years ago, said that every kind of particle from which matter is built must have a precise opposite.

Dirac's conclusions emerged solely from the mathematics. Yet within a few years the anti-electron (positron) was identified and, later, the anti-proton. It is now accepted that Dirac's view is right, that anti-matter is created more or less equally with the kind of matter

with which we are familiar, but that because of a kind of "handedness" in the basic processes which transform fundamental particles into the elements, our universe happens to end up dominated by matter built from electrons which are negatively charged and protons which are positive. In our normal world, anti-matter can exist only briefly for it interacts immediately with ordinary matter to be annihilated simultaneously with an equivalent mass of the "normal" material. The total mass is converted directly to energy.

Inversely, anti-matter can be created by destroying atomic nuclei at very high energies, a process now used in many of the world's high-energy laboratories. At the Centre for Nuclear Research (CERN) near Geneva, an accelerator, designed to create anti-protons to study their interaction with ordinary matter, is already working. Similar experiments are under way at the Fermi Accelerator Laboratory near Chicago.

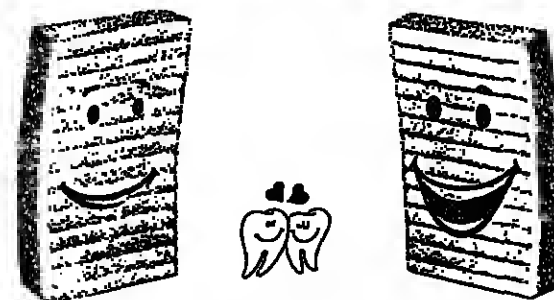
This is so new that no one knows, at the present time, whether anti-particles fall upward or downward in a gravitational field, although the question is under study at CERN. Even more intriguing is the possibility that, if anti-protons and positrons were brought together in an appropriate way, then they should form anti-hydrogen. Given the right techniques, much more complex anti-substances might be created. And, right from the start, an extraordinary energy source would exist. If only one thousandth of a gram of anti-hydrogen were to annihilate one thousandth of a gram of hydrogen, then the energy released would be equivalent to about 50 tonnes of TNT.

Such a possibility was no more than a matter of academic speculation and an ingredient of science fiction rocketry until a few years ago when, seemingly in defiance of the laws of physics, scientists in the U.S. showed that it is possible to use laser beams to isolate a group of atoms, cool them to a temperature close to absolute zero, and hold them stationary for several seconds. Since atoms should be accelerated and heated by radiation pressure, this findings startled the scientific world. It is, however, a key ingredient in the Rand Corporation study which has now prompted the U.S. military to start research into anti-matter.

The conditions in which clusters of atoms are cooled and held has been called "optical molasses." Very recently the technique has moved forward dramatically. Scientists at Bell Laboratory in the U.S. have shown that, by using a specially-focused beam it is possible to collect a cluster of atoms held in "molasses" and handle them as if with optical tweezers. Thus, suddenly, the basic techniques are at hand for assembling anti-particles into anti-matter, for holding clusters of anti-matter atoms in safe isolation, and for transporting them to a reactor chamber.

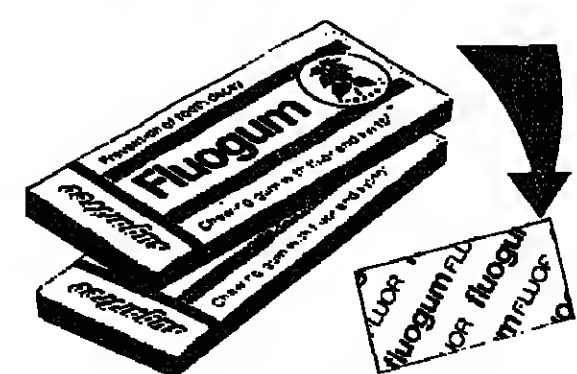
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## Charlton stomps Manchester United

**LONDON (R)** — Ron Atkinson's future at Old Trafford looked increasingly doubtful Saturday when Manchester United suffered a humiliating 1-0 home defeat against English First Division new boys Charlton.

After just three games, United are now firmly anchored at the bottom of the table without a point and Atkinson may be well advised to start scanning the "situations vacant" columns. United finished last season without a prize in their magnificent trophy room and it was an open secret that the club was laying plans to bring in Aberdeen's Alex Ferguson if the team failed to make an early impact this year.

At the other end of the First Division, West Ham surrendered their 100 per cent record when they were held to a goalless draw at Oxford and they are now among a clutch of clubs with seven points out of nine.

Charlton were whipped 4-0 at Nottingham Forest in midweek and must have viewed their visit to Old Trafford with some trepidation.

But after enduring a first half football lesson, the newcomers gained in confidence and midfielder Mark Stuart brought them an unexpected victory when he beat United goalkeeper Chris Turner from the edge of the area in the 49th minute.

Charlton were unfortunate not to increase their lead shortly afterwards. Winger Robert Lee was denied a second goal when United's Scotland World Cup midfielder Gordon Strachan cleared off the line with Turner hopelessly out of position.

It was Charlton's first victory since their return to the top flight and the first time they had travelled to Old Trafford since 1956, a day on which Bobby Charlton made his United debut.

Champions Liverpool rediscovered their winning habit with a 2-1 victory over Arsenal at Anfield, where they dropped two points in a midweek draw with Manchester City.

Danish international Jan Molby put Liverpool in front from the penalty spot in the 19th minute after he had been pulled down by Arsenal defender David O'Leary.

Arsenal equalised three minutes later through Tony Adams but Ian Rush showed just why Juventus have paid almost \$6 million for his services next season with a typical opportunist goal in the 57th minute.

Liverpool's great rivals Everton, still missing six first team

regulars through injury, continued their solid start to the new season with a 1-1 draw at Coventry. Nick Pickering opened the scoring for the home side after 20 minutes but Ian Marshall equalised in the second half.

With Glasgow giants Celtic and Rangers preparing for their first clash of the season Sunday, their three major rivals for the Scottish Premier League title all won with ease.

Hearts, pipped for the double last year, crushed Edinburgh neighbours Hibernian 3-1 with goals from Sandy Clarke, Ian Jardine and John Robertson.

Sadly, the game was held up for

16 minutes when fighting broke out on the terraces and 50 police officers had to move in as missiles rained down on the pitch.

Dundee United won 3-0 with something to spare against visiting St. Mirren although they had to wait until the second half before converting their outfield supremacy into goals through Kevin Gallacher (68 minutes), Eamonn Bannon (82) and Ian Ferguson (83).

Aberdeen, buoyed by their 1-1 draw at Celtic last week, maintained their early promise with a 2-0 home win over Dundee, Joe Miller scoring both goals after the interval.

## Egypt's Tersana wins first soccer title in 19 years

**CAIRO (R)** — Cairo's Tersana Friday basked in their first soccer title for 19 years after beating the Nile Delta team of Mehalla 3-2 to win Egypt's soccer cup in a hotly contested match.

It was the first time the final had been played in the absence of top Cairo clubs Al Ahli and Zamalek.

Al Ahli withdrew from the competition to prepare for its match next week in the African Cup Winners' Cup and Zamalek went out in the quarterfinal stage.

Tersana, who last won the cup in 1967, opened scoring in the 15th minute when Mohammad Ramadan sent the ball past two defenders for Gamal Abdul Halim to head home from close range.

Ramadan 12 minutes later took a ball on the left to drive home the second.

Nehalla dominated most of the second half play and midfielder Shawki Gharib scored from a penalty 13 minutes after the restart.

But Tersana defenders foiled all attempts at an equaliser and in a sudden counter-attack, Ramadan sent a long ball to Tarek Abdul Hamid who ran in from the left to find the Mehalla meeting two minutes before full-time.

## E. Germans keep adding golds in Eurotrack

**STUTTGART, West Germany (AP)** — The heavily favoured East German team, highlighted by double gold medalist Heike Drechsler, extended its solid grip on the European track and field championships into its fifth day here Saturday.

The East Germans have collected seven gold medals, two more than their traditional rivals of the Soviet Union and the British team.

Drechsler matched fellow compatriot Marita Koch's world record of 21.71 seconds in winning the women's 200 metres on Friday, despite a wet track and the cold. It was the second time this year the tall 21-year-old star had equalled the record, set in 1979 and one of the oldest in track

books. She had won the women's long jump, her traditional event, with 7.27 metres on Wednesday. Drechsler is the world record holder with 7.45.

But as East Germany extended its no. 1 role with two golds on Friday, the second from Hagen Melzer in the 3,000 metres steeplechase, Britain with two and the Russians with three continued to stay close behind.

No other team appeared to be in the race as leading contender in the championships, which end Sunday at the Neckar stadium in Stuttgart.

The first four days of competition have been hampered by the bad weather, with cold and driving rain often stopping events.

The athletes have complained that the weather has affected their performances and curtailed many world record hopes.

So far only Fatima Whitbread of Britain has set a new world record, with a sensational 77.44 metres in the qualifications Thursday for the women's javelin. She came close in the final on Friday, which she won with 76.32, the second best in the world ever.

The other British gold came Friday from Roger Black, who clocked a good 44.59 seconds in the men's 400 metres, edging Thomas Schoenlebe of East Germany, second at 44.63.

The Russians, who had a slow start, are showing their team strength, but they have failed so

far to produce outstanding performances.

Sergey Bubka, the pole vault master, could do no better than 5.85 metres, beating his brother Vasily, second at 5.75, in a family duel.

Robert Emmyan won the men's long jump with 8.41 metres and Vladimir Krylov took the men's 200 metres in 20.52, one of the poorest winning performances here so far.

The championships could find other double gold medalists after Drechsler, possibly in Sunday's finals. Top candidates were British miler Sebastian Coe in the 1,500 after taking the 800 and Italy's Stefano Mei, winner of the 10,000, who will play his chips in the 5,000.

## Soviets take top spots in cycling tournament

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado (AP)** — Soviet rider Viatcheslav Ekimov won his second straight world title in the 4,000-metre men's amateur individual pursuit Friday night, nearly lapping his teammate, Guiseppe Umars, who took the silver medal at the world cycling championships.

It was the second year in a row that Ekimov and Umars took the top two places at the world championships.

Ekimov, a 20-year-old student from Leningrad, gained steadily on Umars throughout the race, and was only 50 metres behind him at the end of the race.

Ekimov finished with a time of four minutes, 29.182 seconds. Umars finished at 4:33.905.

Australian Dean Woods edged out East Germany's Bernd Dittert for the bronze with a time of 4:31.529. Dittert's time was 4:31.844.

Another defending world champion, East Germany's Lutz Heschel, beat American Mark Gorski, the 1984 Olympic gold medalist, in two straight rides to move into the semifinals of the amateur men's match sprints.

Three other East Germans, Bill Huck, Ralf-Guido Kuschy, and Michael Huebner also went into the semifinals. Kuschy beat

Australian Gary Neiwand in two straight rides in the best two out of three event.

Huck gained the semifinals by forfeit when the Soviet Union's Sergei Kopylov couldn't make it to the finish line Friday night. Kopylov was hurt in a nasty finish-line spill in his third-round race earlier Friday.

Kopylov, the only rider to fall, wasn't injured seriously and was given the victory, but watched Friday night's races from the sidelines. His left arm was bandaged and he had several large raw spots on his arms, legs, and shoulders from the fall.

Huebner got into the semifinals after he and the Soviet Union's Nikolai Kovche were tied 1-1 and went into a deciding race.

On the final turn, Huebner cut inside of Kovche and put on a burst of speed that moved him even with the Soviet. He was still

accelerating, and moving ahead, when Kovche drifted toward Huebner, forcing him into the infield.

The judges ruled that Kovche had made an improper manoeuvre and awarded Huebner the victory.

Earlier Friday night, Denmark's Hans-Henrik Oersted, shooting for his third straight title, easily rolled into the quarterfinals of the 5,000-metre professional men's individual pursuit, but fellow Dane Jesper Weire took the top spot in qualifying.

Lloyd, Becker win easily

**NEW YORK (AP)** — American Chris Evert Lloyd and West Germany's Boris Becker breezed to easy victories Friday night after Jimmy Connors came up with the big points needed to down 19-year-old Claudio Pistolesi of Italy in the U.S. Open tennis championships.

With the victories, all three advanced into the third round of the year's final Grand Slam tournament.

But the biggest stir of the day came when American John McEnroe, who suffered a stunning first-round defeat in the men's singles, received another blow Friday as he and compatriot teammate Peter Fleming were disqualified in the men's doubles when they failed to show up for their opening-round match or time.

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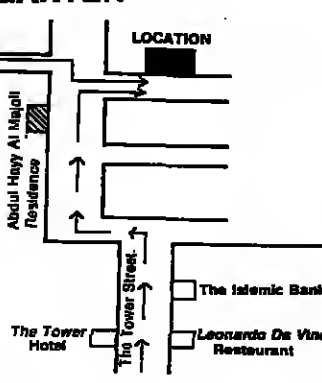
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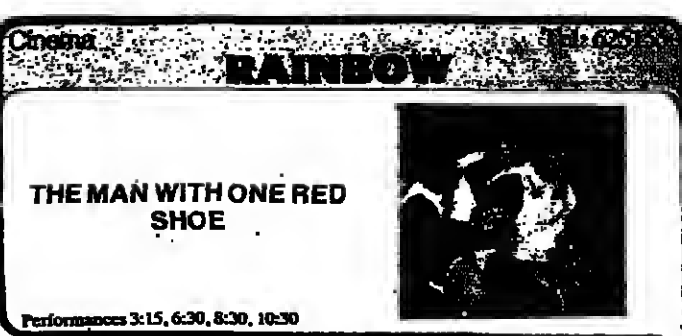
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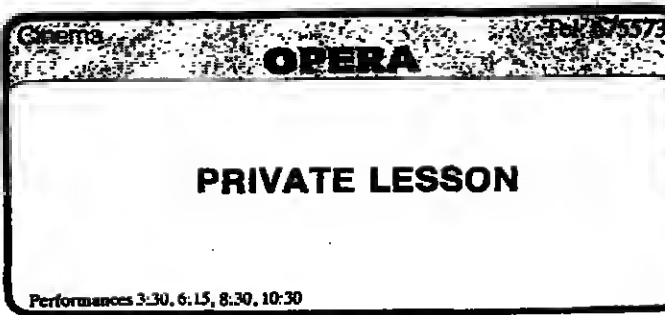
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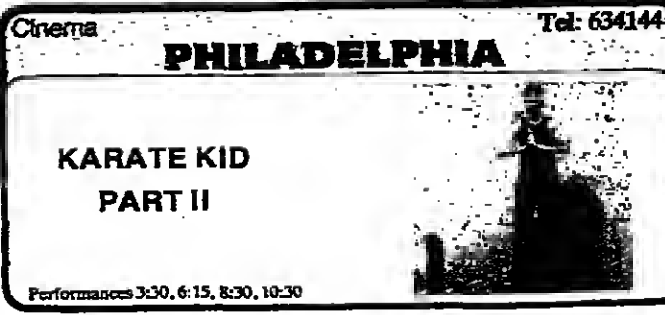
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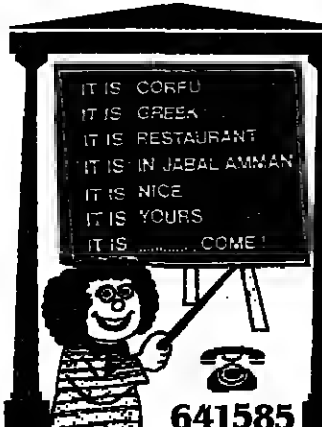


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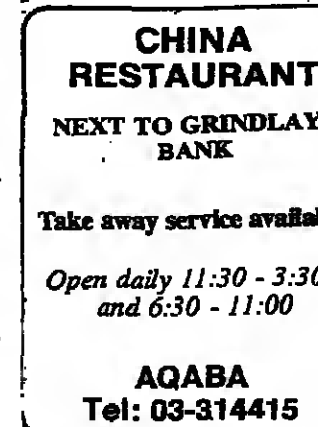
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## Protests continue in Soweto

### U.S. envoy says unrest overshadows reforms

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (Agencies) — The government said Saturday that three blacks were arrested during a protest attack on a Soweto house, but no serious disturbances were reported in the township, where 21 people were killed earlier this week.

The Bureau for Information gave no other details about Friday night's incident, except to say the three blacks arrested were among about 40 youths throwing stones at the house.

The bureau reported nine unrest deaths in the 24 hours ending at daybreak Saturday, a black man killed by a South African Railways policeman in Daveyton, a black township east of Johannesburg.

About 280 people, almost all of them blacks, have been killed in unrest since a state of emergency was declared June 12.

The government has said the violence late Tuesday and early Wednesday in Soweto, in which a town councillor was hacked to death by youths and 20 blacks were shot dead by police, was linked to an orchestrated campaign by militants to cause

trouble in the township. Anti-apartheid leaders say the violence started with unprovoked gunfire from police at blacks emerging from meetings where they discussed the town council's plans to evict families participating in a widespread rent boycott.

The government says it will conduct an inquiry into the deaths, but some of its opponents have called for a broader independent judicial inquiry into the violence.

In crossroads, black squatters Friday returned in the rain to collect pitiful possessions abandoned in the debris of shacks wrecked when South African officials evicted them from their bush homes.

A few of the 100 squatter refugees evicted Thursday from a patch of otherwise deserted area

known as Brown's Farm struggled back to seek precious makeshift building materials, checking first that no police or local government officials were around.

The community, refugees from bitter fighting in Cape Town's main crossroads shanty complex a kilometre away, had cut clearings among the trees and bushes at Brown's Farm, saying they sought a quiet life away from intercommunal strife and official control.

Meanwhile U.S. Ambassador Herman Nickel, who has announced he is leaving his post, says the situation in South Africa looks gloomy because unrest and detentions have overshadowed race reforms.

"When the history of this period is written, one would like to have it remembered that the United States was in the forefront of encouraging change away from apartheid," Mr. Nickel said Friday.

"A great deal was achieved, but it has been crowded out by the unrest and detentions," he said.

"At the moment the situation looks rather gloomy, but I have always felt that South Africa has

the potential of a great future," he said.

The embassy announced Thursday that Mr. Nickel would be leaving his post in a few weeks, and on Friday Mr. Nickel said that will occur in October. He has had the job for more than four years. His successor has not been named.

"There was so much uncertainty in people's minds about when and whether I would be going that I thought it best to announce it," he said.

The South African government, hoping to stem racial unrest, on June 12 imposed a nationwide state of emergency. The government recently said 8,551 people had been detained under the emergency regulations, but independent groups say the figure is 12,000 or more.

By law and custom, apartheid establishes a racially segregated society in which South Africa's 24-million black majority has no vote in national affairs. The 5-million white minority controls the economy and maintains separate districts, schools and health services.

## Indian troops kill 10 in Punjab border clash

NEW DELHI, India (Agencies) — Ten people were killed by Indian border guards while trying to cross the Indian-Pakistan frontier, the United Nations of India (UNI) reported Saturday.

The deaths Friday night raise to more than 160 the number of people shot dead trying to enter India illegally from Pakistan this year.

UNI first quoted official reports as saying the victims were all Pakistani, but Punjab Police Chief J.F. Ribeiro later told the agency two of the victims were Indian Sikhs wanted for terrorist acts.

He said identity of the other victims was still unknown, the news agency reported.

UNI said the 10 men were shot dead as they tried to cross into India near Dera Baba Nanak, 50 kilometres north of Amritsar.

Indian officials have said both smugglers and Sikh separatists in Punjab have been killed or captured while illegally crossing the border. India has frequently accused Pakistan of aiding the Sikh separatists, but Pakistan denies the charge.

India and Pakistan have fought

three wars in the past 40 years and have a dispute over land occupied by Pakistan in what is now the Indian state of Kashmir.

In a separate clash tribal separatist guerrillas gunned down 14 people in India's north eastern state of Tripura and fled across the border to Bangladesh, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported Saturday.

PTI said guerrillas belonging to the outlawed Tripura National Volunteers (TNV) struck at Srimantpur in a northern part of the state late Friday night and that all but one of the victims were non-tribals.

The guerrillas, fighting for a tribal state and eviction of settlers from surrounding regions, were reported to have fled across the border to Bangladesh, PTI added.

The strategic Marxist-ruled state is in India's troubled north eastern region where several guerrilla groups have been waging campaigns over the last 20 years for independent tribal nations.

Immigrants, who are mainly Bengali-speaking, account for nearly 70 per cent of Tripura's two million population.

## Cuban dissident refuses to leave French embassy

HAVANA (R) — The French embassy has refused requests for access to Cuban dissident Ricardo Bojil, who entered the embassy compound Wednesday and refused to leave.

The 52-year-old former Havana University philosophy professor, who has spent almost a decade in jail since 1968, has been told he may not emigrate and join his wife in Miami.

Embassy officials have turned down requests by foreign journalists for interviews with Bojil and, according to a French source, have banned him from telephoning journalists.

In Paris, a French Foreign Ministry statement confirmed that Bojil was refusing to leave.

In April, 1983, Bojil refused for several hours to leave the French embassy but did so voluntarily after Cuban assurances that he would not be jailed, a French diplomat in Havana said.

According to a Miami Herald interview with Bojil's wife in

1983, Bojil was a member of the Cuban Communist Party until 1967, when he was arrested for membership of an anti-Castro splinter group. She said he served seven and a half years in jail.

A Western diplomat source said Bojil was jailed in 1968 and released in 1974.

In December, 1983, Bojil was arrested after giving a lengthy interview to two French reporters who were expelled.

Diplomats in Havana said French President Francois Mitterrand had interceded on Bojil's behalf with Cuban President Fidel Castro.

Western diplomats believe the French government will follow a course of quiet diplomacy to convince the Cuban government to allow Bojil to leave.

They said the incident could damage the effects of Castro's decision, after an appeal from U.S. Catholic bishops, to allow 75 political prisoners into the United States.

## Bolivian workers, students strike to protest arrests

LA PAZ (R) — Bolivian factory and construction workers have joined students in a 24-hour strike to demand the freedom of 162 government opponents, mainly trade unionists, arrested under a government state of siege.

The strike, which halted manufacturing and construction, began at noon Friday as students boycotted classes at the La Paz State University in response to a general strike call by the left-led Bolivian Labour Confederation (COB), witnesses and union leaders said.

The strike was also in protest at the curtailment of civil rights under the 90-day state of siege imposed on Thursday by the centre-right government of four-time President Victor Paz Estenssoro. The measure bans all demonstrations and strikes, suspends freedom of travel and imposes and midnight-to-dawn curfew.

The 32,000-member student union at the state university in La Paz and a nine-party alliance of Marxist and Socialist parties said they joined the stoppage to demand the freeing of those jailed.

The government sent at least 40

of the detained into internal exile deep in the Amazon basin jungle Friday confining them to the remote hamlets of Puerto Rico and San Joaquin, Information Minister Herman Anzola said.

Banks, shops and government offices remained open, ignoring the COB-called strike, witnesses and labour leaders said.

The government said it declared the state of siege to prevent political extremists from provoking violence during a miners' protest that the government said was part of a subversive plan to overthrow it.

Mr. Paz Estenssoro said in a nationally broadcast speech Friday night that he imposed the state of siege to prevent mounting labour unrest from escalating into a social convulsion threatening the stability of his government. He said unnamed opponents planned to use the labour protests to destabilise and "liquidate" his centre-right administration.

He also announced that the government would soon launch new public work projects and found settlements on new agricultural land aimed at giving jobs to the unemployed.

## Rau pledges to put German interests first

NUREMBERG, West Germany (AP) — Johannes Rau, the Social Democrat campaigning to become West German chancellor, says a government under his direction would go along with Washington despite his party's shrill criticism of U.S. foreign policy.

Mr. Rau spoke to the Associated Press in an interview, two days after he was overwhelmingly picked as the left-leaning party's standard-bearer in national elections in January.

The candidate said his party's criticism of the U.S. "Star Wars" programme and decision to seek removal of U.S. nuclear missiles deployed in West Germany need not damage bilateral relations.

"Why should we have a crisis in relations when each (NATO) alliance partner states his opinion and then we try to reach agreement?" he said in the interview during the Social Democratic Party's national congress in Nuremberg.

West Germany signed a memorandum of understanding with Washington in March encouraging West German companies to take part in Star Wars missile defence research. Mr. Rau has pledged to erase the agreement, if he is elected.

Polls show Mr. Rau has an uphill fight against Christian Democratic Chancellor Helmut Kohl, a staunch U.S. ally who claims a personal friendship with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

At the congress, Social Democrats blasted U.S. defence policy and the "warlike" U.S. bombing of Libya on April 15, and called for an end to U.S. "military intervention" in Nicaragua.

Mr. Rau described himself as a

friend of the United States. But he told the AP that as chancellor he would place West German interests first, whether the issue is arms control, East-West relations or economics.

For example, he favoured priming the West German economy by lowering interest rates and increasing public investment, a move long urged by Washington to help reduce the U.S. trade deficit.

But Mr. Rau said he supported stimulating the economy because it was in West Germany's own interest. He said it could help spur domestic demand and thereby reduce unemployment, now at 2.2 million people or 8.6 per cent of the labour force.

The 55-year-old governor of North-Rhine Westphalia state has made unemployment his top campaign issue.

"We must do something, not to help the Americans, but our own citizens," he said.

Mr. Kohl's government has so far resisted the American appeals, arguing that it would be inflationary.

On arms control, Mr. Rau said he had been encouraged by NATO commander Gen. Bernard Rogers' statements to the West German news magazine Stern this week that NATO had too many nuclear warheads in West Germany.

"There are also Americans who say we have too many atomic weapons in the Federal Republic (West Germany), and who say that the distribution of these weapons also does not correspond to American ideas," Mr. Rau told the AP.

Mr. Kohl's enalition

## Indonesia to buy 12 F-16s from U.S.

JAKARTA (R) — The Indonesian Armed Forces signed an agreement Saturday to buy a dozen advanced F-16 fighter jets from the United States, Indonesian military and U.S. embassy spokesmen said.

A spokesman for the Indonesian Department of Defence and Security said Jakarta had finally opted for the American fighter jet, which is also with the air forces of neighbouring Singapore and Thailand.

He declined to give details except to say that a Pentagon maintenance and training package was part of the agreement.

The U.S. embassy said in a brief statement: "The U.S. government is pleased to learn that the Indonesian government has decided to purchase 12 F-16A-Bs." The embassy declined to elaborate pending instructions from the Pentagon.

The contract had hung in the balance for months after France's

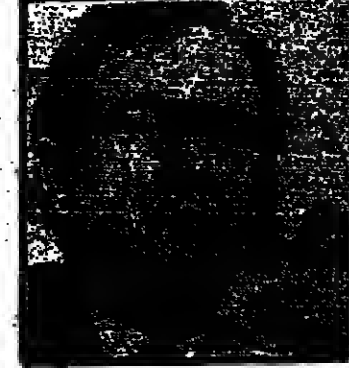
Dassault-Breguet made a late bid with its multi-role Mirage 2000 and sweetened the deal by offering to let Indonesia's IPTN aircraft industry build up to 30 per cent of the fighter's parts.

Jakarta later announced that the F-16's manufacturer, General Dynamics, had also agreed to a subcontract with IPTN, but that has not been confirmed by the American company.

The two plane-makers waged a publicity battle in the skies over Jakarta during the Indonesian Air Show from June 22 to July 1 with repeated demonstration flights of the Mirage and the F-16.

The 12 fighter jets could cost Indonesia \$432 million if the figures, quoted by the Pentagon in notifying the U.S. Congress of the sale, was the final price.

The first aircraft would be handed over in mid-1989 and deliveries would follow at a rate of about one a month, according to



Johannes Rau

government also approved the deployment of 108 F-16s to 2 and 96 cruise missiles three years ago. Mr. Rau voted with the Social Democrats at a Congress in 1983 to oppose the missiles, in what was seen as a leftward swing by the party after its earlier support of the deployment.

Mr. Rau urged the United States to make a serious examination of what he called "exceptional" arms control proposals made by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev this year.

"I support every effort that leads to a summit and concrete agreement," he said.

"Deciding how serious such proposals are can only be done after their examination and negotiations," he said. "It's in the German interest to push for this scrutiny and negotiation."

Mr. Rau said he shared his party's criticism of the U.S. air raid on Libya. "I don't think terrorism can be fought with military attacks," he said.

But he suggested that West Germany could do more to isolate the North African country, although he refused to make specific suggestions.

"West Germany has reduced its relations with Libya, but I think this is insufficient," he said. "We should not use words but deeds."

The purchase is part of an overall streamlining and reorganisation of the armed forces, with less emphasis on costly pre-positioned forces, military Chief Benny Mordani said earlier this year.

The 1986-87 Indonesian defence budget was squeezed to \$500 million, about \$200 million less than the previous year, with the biggest slash in equipment outlays.

Mordani has said the military plans to concentrate new equipment in highly trained and mobile strategic reserve forces which can be rapidly deployed to potential trouble spots in the sprawling 13,600-island archipelago.

The Indonesian Air Combat Force now consists of one Northrop F-5B and two McDonnell Douglas A-4E Skyhawk squadrons.

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## Seoul accuses 154 students of bid to topple government

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's state prosecutors said Saturday they had arrested 154 students and charged them with trying to topple President Chun Doo Hwan's government.

The students, arrested in a crackdown on radicals before next month's Seoul Asian Games, are accused of trying to foment social unrest to bring about a violent leftist revolution.

Of them, 63 were charged with breaking the national security law, which bans activities favouring Communist North Korea and carries a maximum death penalty.

Twenty-six others are being questioned and police are searching for 91 more, the prosecutors said.

They did not say when the students were detained but said

the arrests followed intensive investigations which started in May. Students from more than 20 universities were detained.

Senior prosecutor Choi Hwan told reporters the students had sided with North Korean propaganda by seeking to estrange South Korea from the United States and to fan a popular uprising.

He said they were members of two organisations which masterminded a spate of violent occupations of government and foreign offices during the past year.

The crackdown came as the country's 100,000 police were placed on high alert against attempts to sabotage the Asian Games, which open on Sept. 20.

## Former army colonel takes responsibility for Grenada fort attack

ST. GEORGE'S (R) — A former colonel in the Grenadian army has taken responsibility for the 1983 attack on Fort Rupert in which Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was slain, but he denied that Mr. Bishop's political rivals had plotted the killing.

Ewart Layne told the Grenada high court that when he ordered the army attack, during a power struggle between rival factions of Mr. Bishop's leftist New Jewel Movement (NJM), he could not have imagined that Mr. Bishop and seven associates would be killed.

Layne, one of 18 defendants on trial for the eight murders on Oct. 19, 1983, denied the prosecution's contention that Mr. Bishop's slaying was planned by his rivals in a meeting of the NJM Central Committee.

The United States led an invasion of the Caribbean island nation a few days after the killings. Layne said he gave the order for soldiers to recapture Fort Rupert. Mr. Bishop and his followers had seized the fort after a throng of his supporters freed him from house arrest.

"I accept the responsibility for sending those units. I was legally entitled to do that," said Layne, who told the court that at the time he was in charge of the army on a day-to-day basis. He was a lieutenant-colonel.

According to Layne, the NJM power struggle was almost resolved when the tragedy at Fort Rupert occurred. He told the court that Mr. Bishop had told him in conversation that he was willing to accept joint leadership of the party.

Layne said he ordered the attack after being told that civilians at the fort were destroying military documents and preparing to distribute weapons.



Home movie of Beatles fetches \$39,600

LONDON (R) — A private home movie showing the Beatles pop group relaxing by a Hollywood swimming pool during their 1965 tour was auctioned for \$39,600 (£3,600), Christie's auction house said. The eight MM silent colour film, shot by the Beatles' former press secretary Tony Barrow, showed the four members of the English group playing poker. The 52-minute film was bought by an unidentified middle-aged man who quickly left after the sale, avoiding reporters. The sale was one of three auctions of pop memorabilia being held in London this week. The marriage certificate of the late Beatle John Lennon and Yoko Ono went for \$3,300 (\$5,000).

## Under 16 couples will not be allowed to marry in Malta

VALLETTA (R) — Maltese couples less than 16 years old will not be allowed to marry in church under new rules issued by the Maltese Episcopal Commission of the Catholic Church. Maltese males could previously marry at 16 and girls at 14. Under the new rules, which the commission said were aimed at making Christian marriage more important, both must be 16. Couples under 18 will also need the written consent of parents. Over 7,000 marriages take place in Malta each year, the great majority of them in church. Less than three per cent opt for civil marriage. It is not known whether the state will follow the church in raising the marriage age.

## Police 'bugged' corpse to overhear confession

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida (AP) — Police planted a bug on a woman's body in her coffin, hoping her boyfriend would confess to killing her. But all the listening device on Tracy Lynn Green, 22, picked up was the sound of the boyfriend sobbing, according to a deposition taken this week from detectives in the town of Fort St. Lucie. The boyfriend, Michael Odum, has been charged with killing Ms. Green in March. He remains in the St. Lucie County Jail. Odum, 30, contends Ms. Green jumped to her death from his van as the couple drove along the Interstate 95 Highway after a party in Port St. Lucie. His lawyer, assistant public defender Robin Frierson, says that detectives had little evidence, so they bugged the body, hoping that Odum would confess while he was alone in the funeral home during Ms. Green's wake. "I've heard of detectives going to funerals of murder victims, but this was the first time I've heard of them planting a bug on the body," Frierson said. Police refused to comment on their secret tape, which was erased.

## Irish hospital mixes up babies

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) — An Irish hospital said it gave two newborn boys to the wrong parents last week, but one set of parents refused to return the child they have said insisted it is theirs. "I'm not going to give him up," the woman claiming to be its mother said at the hospital. "He is mine. He has my husband's nose and his family's features. How could another baby look like the family? I could pick him out of a nursery of 35 babies as mine." The disputed baby was returned to the hospital for treatment of jaundice, a common ailment of infants. A high court judge ordered that the couples' identities be withheld. The high court also ordered the parents who refuse to give up the child they have not to take the child out of Ireland. The babies were born about 10 minutes apart on Aug. 21 at Portlaoise Hospital and hospital matron Mairead Hogan said identification labels on the infants and their cribs had been switched inadvertently. Obstetrician Dr. John Conway said in a high court affidavit that on the basis of records he had concluded the parents had the wrong children. He said that the one father, when told of the mistake, used abusive language and pushed him against a wall, then ordered his wife to leave the hospital with the child. The woman who insists she has the right baby said Friday that she was told a difference in the babies' weights prompted the decision that a mistake had been made.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
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### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold.  
#AK98 ♠AB ♠10932 ♠962  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
3 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
What do you bid now?  
A.—With our prime controls and excellent trump support, we would not be surprised if a slam were in the offing. Partner almost surely has a club control, so the ace of hearts is the key card. We would make an advance cue-bid of three hearts. Partner will get the picture of our hand when we support diamonds vigorously at our next turn.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold.  
#92 ♠93 ♠Q52 ♠AJ1062  
The bidding has proceeded:  
East South West North  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Dble  
Pass ?  
What do you bid now?  
A.—Even at this vulnerability, partner must have a reasonable hand to force you to bid at the three-level. Therefore, we would not mind if you elected to leap to five clubs. However, we feel there is a good chance your best contract is four hearts, even on a 4-3 fit, since you can take a spade ruff in the short-trump hand. Therefore, we would content ourselves with a jump to four clubs.

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold.  
#9763 ♠7 ♠654 ♠AKQ62  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 4 ♠ ?  
What action do you take?  
A.—A double might work, but we think it crazy to try to penalize the opposition when we have length in partner's suit. We would try four spades. True, that comes with no guarantee, but it certainly won't come to much grief and there

should be play for the contract. Besides, it might force the opponents to five hearts, a contract we would be comfortable defending.

Q.4—East-West, vulnerable, as South you hold.  
#643 ♠AS852 ♠Q109 ♠103  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
A.—You could have a near bust with nothing but a long suit for your response of two diamonds. Instead, you are near maximum for your bid. The way to tell partner of this is to double. He won't expect more than this from you, and he is not compelled to sit for the double if he thinks his hand is unsuitable.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold.  
#493 ♠K1065 ♠A1032 ♠62  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
A.—You have a pretty good hand, but don't forget that partner passed originally. In view of that, we don't think you have enough to venture on. Don't punish partner for refusing to sell out to the opponents at too low a level.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
#J982 ♠6 ♠K1063 ♠AQ98  
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one heart. What action do you take?  
A.—It is close whether you should double or pass, but we prefer the former even at this vulnerability. While you are not overly robust in terms of high cards, you have the perfect distribution. If you do not act now, by the time the auction gets back to you the level could be too high for you to have any margin of safety.